



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Japan: 'Text' of Emperor Akihito's Remarks at State Banquet

OW1704131496 Tokyo KYODO in English
1248 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO — The following is the full text of an address delivered by Emperor Akihito at a state banquet Wednesday [17 April] in honor of U.S. President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary.

I wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to your excellency President Clinton of the United States of America on this occasion of your visit to our country as a state guest, together with Mrs. Clinton, notwithstanding your heavy official schedule at home and abroad. It is a great pleasure indeed to spend this evening with you here.

The year before last, I visited the United States, with the Empress, at the kind invitation of you, Mr. President, and Mrs. Clinton. We received heartwarming hospitality from you both in Washington, D.C. and were welcomed with genuine goodwill by so many Americans everywhere we visited in the course of our two-week trip across the United States continent and on to Hawaii. Throughout the visit, I was reminded once again of the strong bond of friendship between our two countries. I was also deeply impressed by the way your country continues to move forward, embracing a wide diversity of people and constantly refreshing the ideals of democracy.

In January last year, in the wake of the Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake, we received warm sympathy and generous support not only from the government but from many citizens of the United States. I am deeply grateful for the goodwill and friendship extended to us by your government and people.

I pay my respects to you, Mr. President, for your energetic endeavor to bring about various reforms at home, as well as for your ceaseless efforts to maintain peace and promote development in many places in the world, as President of the country which plays the leading role in international society which is at present in a state of flux. At the same time, it is reassuring, Mr. President, that you give your personal attention to the promotion of friendship and goodwill between Japan and the United States.

During the more than fifty years since the end of the last world war, the people of Japan and the United States have built up an unprecedented relationship of close cooperation through their shared wisdom and untiring mutual efforts. As the peoples of the world are still groping towards a new order in the international sphere,

it is my fervent wish that the people of Japan and the United States, looking back on their past experiences and deepening their understanding of history, culture and society, will combine their efforts to resolve the various problems they confront as they diligently pursue their common goal of world peace and prosperity.

Taking place during the season of cherry blossom, which has come to symbolize the friendship between our two countries, I sincerely hope that your present visit will bear much fruit and contribute to furthering the friendship between our two peoples and their happiness.

I now wish to raise my glass in a toast to the health of his excellency the President and Mrs. Clinton as well as to the happiness of the American people.

Japan: 'Full Text' of Clinton, Hashimoto Message Presented

OW1704114396 Tokyo KYODO in English
0831 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO — The following is the full text of a message from Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton to the peoples of both Japan and the United States, issued Wednesday [17 April] after their summit meeting.

Message from Prime Minister Hashimoto and President Clinton to the peoples of Japan and United States

Meeting the challenges of the 21st century

— Japan and the United States approach the 21 century as allies and partners with shared values, interests and hopes. Our relationship is of bilateral, regional and global importance. We face the challenges of tomorrow strengthened by years of common tests, experiences and cooperation.

— Our alliance is central to peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. Japan-U.S. security arrangements are vital to both nations.

— Our economic activities inseparably bind the lives of our two peoples. The enormous flows of trade, investment and finance between Japan and the United States are vital to our own prosperity and this health of the world economy.

— Our diplomatic cooperation has helped to bring peace to troubled regions, combat terrorism, reduce nuclear dangers, strengthen the functions of the United Nations, and promote democracy and development around the world.

— We have promoted cooperation and a sense of community among the countries in the Asia-Pacific

region. Together under our common agenda, we are addressing viral global issues, such as protection of the environment, that neither country can solve alone.

— Friendship and people-to-people exchange among Japanese and Americans have drawn our two countries closer, increasing trust and helping to deepen understanding.

We, the leaders of Japan and the United States, have today reviewed the past achievements of the Japan-U.S. relationship. We have discussed the enormous changes in the world, the challenges that lie ahead, and the active and cooperative roles that our two countries can play in order to build a more peaceful and prosperous Pacific community and better world. To guide our future cooperation, we declare the following.

1. For more than a year, the governments of Japan and the United States conducted an intensive review of the evolving political and security environment of the Asia-Pacific region and of various aspects of the Japan-U.S. security relationship. The results are reflected in the "Japan-U.S. joint declaration on security — alliance for the 21st century."

2. This review reaffirmed that the bilateral security relationship, based on the treaty of mutual cooperation and security between Japan and the United States, remains the cornerstone for achieving common security objectives and for maintaining a stable and prosperous environment for the Asia-Pacific region as we enter the 21st century.

3. The two governments will continue their close diplomatic consultation and cooperation, which have contributed to peace, prosperity and democracy in the world. In particular, they are committed to trilateral cooperation with the Republic of Korea (South Korea) to promote peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. They will also work closely to build peace in the Middle East and they are pleased that each government is making substantial contributions to humanitarian relief and to reconstruction in the Former Yugoslavia.

4. The two governments will also cooperate to promote the spread of democracy, the rule of law, and the guarantee of basic human rights, so that all peoples can enjoy the benefits of freedom and the protection of a vigorous legal system.

5. The Governments of Japan and the United States will join in bringing about meaningful reform of the United Nations system, including financial reform, reform of economic, social and development programs, and reform of the Security Council, to make the United Nations more effective. They will work with other UN members to achieve a broad framework for reform by

fall 1996. In this context, the United States strongly supports the addition of Japan as a permanent member of the Security Council.

6. Both governments will work to hasten the completion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) with the goal of signature by the fall of this year. They reaffirmed the importance of the commitment by nuclear weapons states at the NPT review and extension conference last year to exercise utmost restraint pending the entry into force of the CTBT. They will continue to seek universal adherence to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and to support systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons.

The two governments emphasized the importance of bringing the chemical weapons convention into force at the earliest possible date to prohibit chemical weapons and to reduce the threat of their use as instruments of war or terrorism. They agree on the need for prompt ratification of the convention by the United States and other signatories.

7. The two governments will cooperate to bring about the early start of work under the Wassenaar arrangement as the first global regime to address dangers posed by transfers of conventional arms and sensitive dual-use goods and technologies. They endorse ongoing efforts to strengthen the protocol on the use of land mines in the convention on conventional weapons and encourage further international efforts to control the production, stockpiling and transfer of antipersonnel land mines. The two governments urge the fullest possible participation in the United Nations register of conventional arms.

8. The two governments will cooperate to strengthen multilateral mechanisms to counter the threat of chemical, biological and nuclear terrorism. Both countries will work to support greater law enforcement cooperation among nations. They will encourage all states to make efforts to become parties to, and to abide by, international treaties and conventions against terrorism. In addition, the two governments will intensify research and development of technologies to deter, detect and apprehend terrorists.

9. As the world's two largest national economies, Japan and the U.S. reaffirm their important responsibility for effective management of the world economy and for the strengthening of the multilateral free trade system. The two governments will cooperate to ensure the success of the first World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial conference to be held in Singapore in December this year.

10. The two governments will enhance their cooperation in the work under way to strengthen the international economic system, including ensuring the effectiveness of institutions such as the World Trade Organization, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

11. Both governments reaffirm their commitment to a balanced and mutually beneficial economic relationship and to the framework for a new economic partnership and its basic objectives, including its goals: to deal with structural and sectoral issues in order substantially to increase access and sales of competitive foreign goods and services through market opening and macroeconomic measures, to increase investment, to promote international competitiveness, and to enhance bilateral economic cooperation between Japan and the United States.

12. For more than two years, through the process of the framework talks and other consultations, the two governments have successfully addressed economic and trade issues of global significance, in a manner consistent with international rules. These arrangements and measures will be implemented fully, and both governments will give priority attention to the remaining work of the framework and cooperate to resolve expeditiously any economic and trade issues which may arise.

13. The two governments welcome the progress that has been achieved so far under the framework in the macroeconomic area, including budget deficit reduction in the United States and reduction in Japan's current account surplus. They recognize the need to continue their efforts to strengthen the basis for sustained growth and will continue to cooperate to this end.

14. APEC is the centerpiece for promoting broad economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. The action agenda adopted in Osaka last year provides a long-term, comprehensive course toward realization of the goals of free and open trade and investment and the promotion of economic and technical cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, as set forth in the 1994 Bogor declaration. The two governments will cooperate closely to advance APEC's objectives and to ensure the success of the meetings in the Philippines this November.

15. The common agenda for cooperation is an important example of how Japan and the United States work together on critical global issues to improve the future of the Asia-Pacific region and the world. Common agenda projects are helping to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS, combat narcotics production and trafficking, limit population growth, eradicate polio in Asia, expand educational opportunities for girls, preserve coral reefs in the Pacific, promote technology cooperation, and develop human resources.

16. The two governments will expand the work of the common agenda to combat infectious diseases, improve global food supply, strengthen civil society and support democratization in developing and newly emerging countries, mitigate the damage from natural disasters, expand the use of technology in education, and combat terrorism. They will also explore the opportunity for new areas of cooperation under the common agenda on concepts for economic and social development that are compatible with preserving nature and environment in the 21st century. Both governments urge the private sector to support the common agenda and welcome third-country participation in common agenda projects.

17. The two governments will further promote exchange programs between young people of the two countries. From this standpoint the U.S. Government greatly appreciates the comprehensive initiative of the government of Japan to provide opportunities for American high school students, college and graduate students, college graduates, teachers, researchers, artists, and other young people to learn about Japan. Both governments expect that the Japan-United States Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON) will continue to contribute to the wide range of exchanges between Japan and the United States. The two governments will also promote interaction between Japan overseas cooperation volunteers and members of the U.S. Peace Corps.

Japan and the United States enjoy a relationship that is based on common values and interests and on the friendship and trust that have developed between individual Japanese and Americans over the years. We renew our determination to build on this cooperation and friendship to strengthen further the bilateral relationship between Japan and the United States. Tokyo, April 17, 1996

Prime Minister of Japan and the President of the United States

Japan: Hashimoto Speaks at Luncheon in Honor of Clinton

OW1804034896 Tokyo KYODO in English
0332 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — The following is the full text of a speech by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto at a luncheon in honor of President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary on Thursday [18 April].

President Clinton, Mrs. Clinton, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Last year, in Japan, we commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the war. This year, we are taking the first steps towards a new era. In this important year, we welcome the President and the first lady of the United States of America, Japan's most important partner in the world.

Looking back, we can see that the peoples of the United States and Japan, through their untiring efforts during the course of this half century, have built a relationship of firm mutual trust which we enjoy today. It is said these days that the relationship between Japan and the United States is the most important bilateral relationship in the world, and I think that it certainly is not an exaggeration.

Let me take this opportunity to say directly to all of the people watching this broadcast on television as well. That is as we enter this new era, the world community is anticipating that both Japan and the United States will fully put to use, much more than ever before, the strengths and wisdom they possess. The peoples of Japan and the United States are the ones who will carry out the duty to build a peaceful and prosperous 21st century. It will be nothing less than the strong friendship and trust existing today between the peoples of the two countries which will be the prime force behind the further development of Japan-U.S. relations and achievement of global prosperity.

Today I have invited many people from various fields who have contributed to the advancement of relations between Japan and the United States. The strength of today's relationship between the two countries is a direct result of the efforts made by many individual Japanese and Americans, who are represented by those of you in attendance.

One example is Mr. Kiyoshi Endo, in attendance here, who during the war fought against the United States in the battle for Iwo Jima, but fifty years later, in March 1995, held a joint memorial service and affirmed friendship beyond love and hate in the past.

Here today we also have representatives from the America-Japan society, which has been engaged in grassroot exchanges throughout Japan for nearly 80 years since its establishment. Several graduates from the Fulbright program are also in attendance. Over 6,000 Japanese have studied under this program, which was set up by Senator Fulbright soon after the war, and they have contributed significantly to the Japan of today.

From the United States many people have become part of Japanese society, spreading the seeds of exchange and mutual understanding, thus enriching the relations between the two nations. The televised English lessons

of Ms. Marsha Krakower helped so many of us learn English and also learn about America. I was surprised to hear that Mr. Harold Sims, who came to Japan soon after the war, is president of a neighborhood association in Hachioji City. And many of you know Azumazeki-Oyakata, who had a very prominent career in sumo wrestling, and who, after becoming the first foreigner to reach the rank of sekitori, became a naturalized Japanese citizen.

Also gathered with us today are many Japanese and American young people, our hopes for the 21st century. From the United States we welcome today several students now studying in Japan, as well as several engaged in English education in different areas throughout Japan.

The peoples of Japan and the United States have begun to deal in earnest with ways to cooperate for the safeguarding of humankind and the planet. For the past three years, the Governments of Japan and the United States have been promoting, under the banner of "common agenda," projects that protest global environment of challenge such threats to people and society as poverty and terrorism. [sentence as received] Today I have invited those who play an active part in the front line of this common agenda.

Ladies and gentlemen,

For the peoples of Japan and the United States, solid relations between our two countries are an irreplaceable asset. There will be many challenges ahead, precisely because we enjoy such a close relationship. I am certain that the person to person links between Japan and the United States — those very human relations — will provide the most powerful source of strength enabling us to maintain this relationship without a peer in human history, overcoming any problem that may come our way.

Since Commodore Perry first arrived in this country, a history of over 140 years of exchange between us has been recorded. Considering anew the importance of this shared history and celebrating today's friendly relationship between our two peoples, I would like everyone to join me in a toast to an even greater development of the Japan-U.S. relationship for a new era, and to the posterity and health of the President, the first lady and everyone assembled here.

Kanpai.

Japan: Hashimoto 'Refreshed' by Clinton's Speech to Diet

OW1804024896 Tokyo KYODO in English
0241 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — U.S. President Bill Clinton pledged Thursday [18 April] to maintain a "strong" American military presence in Japan, warning that the absence of such presence could lead to an arms race in the region.

"The security alliance between our nations is the cornerstone of stability in Asia," he said in an address to the Diet, Japan's parliament. He said the United States plans to keep 100,000 troops in east Asia, roughly half of them in Japan.

Clinton defended the continued U.S. military presence despite protests, arguing a pullout of the U.S. troops from the region "could spark a costly arms race that could destabilize northeast Asia."

"It would weaken our power to deter states like North Korea that may threaten the peace...and to take on urgent problems like terrorism, international organized crime and drug trafficking," he warned.

On Wednesday, Clinton and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto signed a Japan-U.S. security declaration reconfirming the importance of U.S. military presence in northeast Asia.

Clinton expressed regret over "the horrible violence" against a 12-year-old Okinawan schoolgirl who was abducted and raped by three American servicemen. The servicemen received prison terms of six and a half years to seven years.

"Our hearts go out to her, to her family and loved ones, and to the entire Okinawan community," he said. "We are gratified that justice has been done."

Clinton said in his address to the Diet that the two countries should work together to make their bilateral alliance stronger.

"Our security alliance benefits both our countries, this entire region and the world," he said.

Despite progress in recent trade talks, Clinton said, "Our trading relationship is not free of friction. More work needs to be done to fully implement the agreements we have reached and to open more markets."

He called on the Japanese to join the Americans to make their relations productive and cooperative in the next 50 years.

"Now our generation has the sacred duty to make the next 50 years even better — for all our people,"

Clinton said. "In this time of remarkable possibility, I am confident that we will succeed — if we continue to work together and lead as allies, as partners and as friends."

Prime Minister Hashimoto said he felt "refreshed" while listening to Clinton's speech in the Diet.

"He did not just utter a string of flattering compliments, it was an excellent speech, just as if he was talking closely to others," he told reporters.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama, the top government spokesman, said he was also deeply impressed by the address.

Japan: Governor Thanks U.S. President Over Okinawa Issue

OW1804062596 Tokyo KYODO in English
0613 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota personally thanked U.S. President Bill Clinton on Thursday [18 April] for working with Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto to settle the issue of U.S. bases in Okinawa Prefecture during the President's state visit to Japan.

Ota said he expressed his appreciation when he briefly met Clinton following a luncheon at a Tokyo hotel hosted by Hashimoto.

The U.S.-educated governor said he invited the President to visit Okinawa to see the U.S. military bases there.

Okinawa is home to about 75 percent of all land occupied by the U.S. military in Japan and about 28,000 of the 47,000 U.S. service personnel stationed in the country, although it makes up only 0.6 percent of Japan's total land area.

Japan: Okinawans Show 'Dissatisfaction' With Clinton Speech

OW1804060196 Tokyo KYODO in English
0551 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Naha, Japan, April 18 KYODO — Many people in Okinawa on Thursday [18 April] expressed dissatisfaction over U.S. President Bill Clinton's morning address to the Diet, thinking his apology for the rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen is inadequate.

The rape of the 12-year-old girl last September, for which the three servicemen have been sentenced to prison terms, sparked fierce protests against the U.S. military presence on the southernmost island prefecture.

home to about 75 percent of U.S. military bases and nearly half of the 47,000 U.S. service personnel in Japan.

Clinton told the Diet, "The American people profoundly regret the horrible violence done to the young schoolgirl. Our hearts go out to her, to her family and loved ones, and to the entire Okinawan community. We are gratified that justice has been done."

But many disgruntled Okinawa people remained ruffled as they feel the President's apology does not truly reflect the sentiments of the people in Okinawa Prefecture.

Mayumi Tengan, 28, who visited the United States in February to seek Americans' understanding on the Okinawan situation, said, "The President's speech is not enough to dispel the fear and anxiety of women living in Okinawa as it failed to promise the future prevention of similar incidents."

Tetsuei Tamayose, 61, the head of the prefecture's Liaison Committee on Child Upbringing, said, "It is nothing new for the President to apologize for the incident as he represents all U.S. nationals."

Tamayose said the incident had caused irreparable damage on the minds of many children in the prefecture, adding, "Merely scaling down the size of the military bases cannot be an effective solution to the problem."

Japan: Government To Present U.S. With 1,000 Cherry Trees

*OW1804052396 Tokyo KYODO in English
0456 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — Japan will present the United States with 1,000 cherry trees as a symbol of their long-standing partnership. House of Representatives Speaker Takako Doi said Thursday [18 April] after U.S. President Bill Clinton's address to the Diet.

"We will present the cherry trees as a symbol of the new era between the two nations," Doi said.

Earlier, Clinton addressed the Diet as the second U.S. President to do so following Ronald Reagan in 1983 and emphasized the lasting bilateral friendship. He apologized for the rape incident of a Okinawan schoolgirl last fall by three U.S. military servicemen.

After the 20-minute address, Clinton received a standing ovation from the packed audience, lasting more than a minute.

Former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa hailed the speech, saying, "that was a terrific speech. His speech was directed more toward the younger generation,

and that perfectly matched the image of the young president."

Former premier Tomiichi Murayama, current leader of the Social Democratic Party, said, "This was my fifth encounter with Mr. Clinton. His speech was magnificent, but he looked a little nervous."

Japan: Keidanren Chairman Views Hashimoto-Clinton Summit

*OW1804033396 (Internet) Keidanren WWW
in Japanese 17 Apr 96*

[Comments by Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations of Japan (Keidanren), on the Japan-U.S. summit meeting on 17 April; from the "News" link]

[FBIS Translated Text] 1. I think the groundwork has been laid for an ideal relationship between Japan and the United States in the 21st Century through the just concluded summit talks. I welcome the fact that the two leaders were able to further strengthen their relationship of trust through a series of meetings, and I pay my respects to the leadership exercised by the two leaders.

2. The Japan-U.S. security arrangement, which was a topic of discussion at the summit, is indispensable not only for Japan's security, but also for peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. In this regard, I hope the two governments will continue to conduct unprecedented close consultations to set up a system of cooperation that can deal with various situations in a timely and appropriate manner.

The business community offers its support and cooperation to make the cooperative relationship under the Japan-U.S. security arrangements the cornerstone of stability and prosperity in the world, and in the Asia-Pacific region.

3. I hope that the bilateral relationship of cooperation will develop further in the future in the wideranging areas agreed upon and confirmed at the summit talks, including security, economic issues, and the global partnership.

Japan: KYODO Reviews Clinton, Hashimoto Summit Events

*OW1804091596 Tokyo KYODO in English
0842 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — U.S. President Bill Clinton left Japan on Thursday [18 April] after a busy three-day schedule as a state guest in which he reconfirmed the importance of the bilateral security alliance.

Clinton, along with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, is heading for Moscow to attend a nuclear safety summit of leaders of the Group of Seven industrialized countries plus Russia and Ukraine.

During his stay in Japan, Clinton and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on Wednesday issued a joint statement redefining the bilateral security pact in the post-Cold War era, saying the security partnership serves not only the defense of Japan but also the stability of the entire Asia-Pacific region.

On Wednesday, the two leaders released a message to the peoples of the two countries, saying they renewed their determination "to strengthen further the bilateral relationship between Japan and the United States."

At a post-summit joint news conference, Clinton and Hashimoto said they reinforced the importance of the bilateral security regime in light of the needs of the post-Cold War period and pledged efforts to bolster mutual security collaboration.

The U.S. leader subsequently visited Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, just southwest of Tokyo, which is the home port of the U.S. aircraft carrier Independence, and addressed U.S. military personnel on board the ship.

On Thursday, Clinton addressed a joint session of the parliament in the House of Representatives, becoming the first U.S. President to make a speech before the Diet in more than a decade.

In his speech, Clinton pledged to maintain a strong U.S. military presence in Japan, saying the absence of such a presence could lead to an arms race in east Asia. "The security alliance between our nations is the cornerstone of stability in Asia," he said.

Clinton and his wife then attended a luncheon hosted by Hashimoto and his wife Kumiko, which was attended by about 300 Japanese and American guests.

Among them was Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota, who has demanded all U.S. military installations in his prefecture be closed by 2015. He thanked Clinton for working with Hashimoto to streamline U.S. bases in Okinawa.

The rape last September of a 12-year-old schoolgirl in Okinawa by three U.S. servicemen sparked outrage in the prefecture and other parts of Japan, with calls mounting for reduction or removal of U.S. bases.

About 75 percent of all land occupied by U.S. forces in Japan is in Okinawa and about 28,000 of the 47,000 U.S. service personnel stationed in the country are in the prefecture, although it makes up only 0.6 percent of Japan's total land area.

Clinton also visited a car showroom of Chrysler Corp. in Tokyo to express his support for U.S. automakers' efforts to win greater market access in Japan.

The President had been scheduled to visit Japan last November but canceled his trip due to a stalemate with congress over the federal budget.

Japan: Foreign Ministry Official comments on Clinton Summit

OW1804103096 (Internet) Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs WWW in English 17 Apr 96

["Background Briefing on the Summit Meeting" by an unidentified official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 17 April; place not given; from the "What's New" link of the special Clinton home page]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Topics of Discussion]

- I. Introduction to the briefing
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- V. Further matters on the bilateral security relationship
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- VII. Matters relating to U.S.-China relations and Most Favored Nation (MFN) status
- VIII. The number of agreements reached between Japan and the United States
- IX. Japan-U.S. cooperation on ballistic missile defense
- X. Security matters relating to U.S. troop levels in Japan
- XI. The Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)

I. Introduction to the briefing

Official of the International Press Division: We are now going to start the background briefing. Since this briefing is on a background basis, we ask that you use only the attribution of Foreign Ministry Official and not quote the Press Secretary directly by name or title. Thank you.

II. Background information on the Summit Meeting between President William Clinton of the United States of America and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan

Foreign Ministry Official: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Before I give you a readout of the Meeting between President William Clinton of the United States of America and Prime Minister Hashimoto, I would like to remind you that two documents were signed by the two leaders and announced this afternoon before the Press Conference.

One of the documents is titled, Message from Prime Minister Hashimoto and President Clinton to the Peoples of Japan and the United States. This document first reviews the past achievements of our bilateral relationship, and then sets forth the areas of future cooperation in a broad range of areas, such as security/diplomatic cooperation, United Nations, disarmament, the fight against terrorism, the economy, APEC, the Common Agenda, and people-to-people exchanges. The other document is titled, the Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security — Alliance for the 21st Century. In this document, the two leaders take stock of the regional scene, and reaffirm the significance of the Alliance and the Security Treaty on which the Alliance is based. It spells out specific areas of bilateral security cooperation, in which efforts will be made to undertake cooperation. It also addresses regional and global cooperation. This document, to borrow the words of the Prime Minister, will serve as a starting point for future cooperation.

III. Details of the Summit Meeting between President William Clinton of the United States of America and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan

A. Overview

Foreign Ministry Official: Now for the Summit Meeting between the two leaders. The Meeting took place between 11:35 and 13:15, so it lasted for about an hour and 40 minutes. They discussed a broad range of subjects on the bilateral relationship. On international issues they discussed the People's Republic of China, the Korean Peninsula, the former Yugoslavia, the Russian Federation, the Middle East, the Moscow Summit on Nuclear

Safety, and United Nations reform. They discussed economic issues, both macroeconomic and microeconomic. They discussed the Common Agenda, and last, but not least, they discussed people-to-people exchanges.

B. The Bilateral Relationship

Foreign Ministry Official: At the outset of the Meeting, Prime Minister Hashimoto reiterated his condolences for the passing of Secretary of Commerce Ronald Brown of the United States of America. He emphasized the importance of underscoring to the peoples of the two countries, to the Asia-Pacific region, and to the entire world, the importance of the Japan-U.S. relationship in this new era. He said that the two countries have forged a very strong relationship, and that he would like to take advantage of this opportunity to confirm the future direction of the cooperative ties. At this point, the two leaders agreed to issue the two messages. In response to this, President Clinton referred to the postponement of his visit in November for domestic reasons. He referred to the developments in the Japan-U.S. relationship after November last year. He said that the Joint Security Declaration was in the interest of the peoples of both countries and the region, and that it sends out a good signal. He said it was a very strong document.

C. The People's Republic of China and Taiwan Foreign Ministry

Official: After that, they discussed China. On China, Prime Minister Hashimoto took the lead. He referred to recent tensions in the Taiwan Strait, and emphasized the importance of the two countries and the international community to seek a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question. He also underscored the importance of conveying this position to China. He also said that he considered the positive engagement of China in the international community to be important. He reiterated Japan's support for China's early accession to the World Trade Organization. President Clinton referred to the United States' One China Policy, and he also expressed the hope that the unification will be achieved peacefully. He also said that he was aware that talks were going on between Taipei and Beijing regarding cooperation in the economic area, and that this was good news. He said that it was important to be sure that the cross-strait relations do not deteriorate. On the WTO he said that, basically the United States supported China's accession to it, but that certain commercial conditions had to be met.

D. The Situation on the Korean Peninsula

Foreign Ministry Official: They discussed yesterday's proposal made on the island of Cheju. He said that Japan

held in high regard the proposal to hold talks without preconditions. He also expressed his appreciation for letting the Government of Japan know beforehand about the proposal. He also referred to the fact that he expressed his support for the proposal immediately after the announcement was made. On North Korea, he said that we did not have sufficient information, but that there seemed to be shortages of food and energy. He reiterated that the proposal for a four-party meeting was a good proposal. With regard to Japan's relations with North Korea, he referred to the fact that Japan was having preliminary informal contacts with the North Korean side, but that in view of the series of recent actions by North Korea, at this moment, the conditions were not there for moving forward with the normalization talks with North Korea. On the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), he underscored the importance of Japan, the United States, and the Republic of Korea working closely together. On our ties with the Republic of Korea, Prime Minister Hashimoto said there had been a delicate phase in the relationship, but that in his meeting with President Kim Young Sam of the Republic of Korea at the time of the ASEAN Meeting in Bangkok, the two leaders reaffirmed the importance of maintaining good ties between the two countries. In response to this, President Clinton expressed his appreciation for Japan's quick support for the proposal for the four-party meeting. He said that he was not aware of North Korea's reaction to this proposal.

E. The Former Yugoslavia

Foreign Ministry Official: Prime Minister Hashimoto paid tribute to the efforts of the United States, and said that Japan would spare no efforts to support the process there. President Clinton said that Japan's support was very useful.

F. Russian Reform

Foreign Ministry Official: On Russia, President Clinton took the lead. He said he was aware of the territorial issue between Japan and Russia, and that the United States supported Japan's position. He said that it was important for Russia to maintain reform and unity, and that the United States would continue support to Russia to this end. Prime Minister Hashimoto said that, although we had a territorial issue with Russia, Japan supported Russia's reform efforts.

G. The G-7 Summit

Foreign Ministry Official: In connection with the G-7 Summit, he said, with regard to the question of the G-8, that he would like to stay in close touch with the United States. President Clinton agreed that on the G-8, the two governments should stay in touch.

H. The Middle East Peace Process

Foreign Ministry Official: On the Middle East peace process, President Clinton referred to the recent situation in Lebanon. He appreciated Japan's high-level participation in the Peacemakers' Summit. He also expressed his appreciation for Japan's support to the West Bank and Gaza. He said that he was convinced that the peace process would make progress. Prime Minister Hashimoto said that Japan appreciated the United States' initiative regarding the Peacemakers' Summit. He said that Japan would like to make contributions to improve the economic and social situation in the autonomous areas. He said that Japan would continue to extend financial support to this area.

I. The Moscow Nuclear Safety Summit

Foreign Ministry Official: In connection with the Moscow Nuclear Safety Summit, President Clinton stated that the United States would like to continue to call on China, the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to support a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and that this year, 1996, provided great opportunities for nuclear disarmament. He said he would like to cooperate with Japan on this matter. Prime Minister Hashimoto said that he agreed with President Clinton on this, and that Japan would like to cooperate closely with the United States on this matter. He also referred to the disposal of nuclear waste. He said that Japan attached importance to this issue, and added that, at the time of the Moscow Summit, Japan would like to get a clear commitment on this matter from Russia.

J. United Nations Reform

Foreign Ministry Official: President Clinton reiterated United States support for Japan's permanent seat on the Security Council, and also, Japan's bid this year to become a non-permanent member of the Security Council. Prime Minister Hashimoto expressed his appreciation for the United States support. He said there was a tendency to focus on the financial aspect of United Nations reform, but that it was important to pursue progress in all three areas of United Nations reform; that is to say, in addition to the financial area, restructuring of the Security Council, and also reform in the social and economic areas. He also underscored the importance of United States leadership regarding this matter.

K. Bilateral Economic Issues

Foreign Ministry Official: President Clinton said that a lot of progress had been made on individual trade issues, and he expressed his appreciation for the fact that 20 agreements have been achieved. He said there

still remained issues to be resolved. He also said that he was aware of Prime Minister Hashimoto's positions on these issues, and said that he would like to work for the solution of these issues. He specifically referred to insurance, semiconductors, the air service talks -- the passenger aspect, and photographic film. In response, Prime Minister Hashimoto said that Japan would like to hold talks with the United States on how to proceed with the passenger services aspect of the air services talks. On semiconductors, he said he was not going to repeat his position, except to say that the role of the Agreement was now over. He said that currently, the semiconductor industries of the two countries were holding talks, and that he was hopeful that these talks would achieve good results. On photographic film, he said that this matter could be resolved by the anti-monopoly authority. On insurance he said that talks were being conducted in a constructive manner, but that further progress was necessary. He said that Japan was hoping that the United States would be more flexible on this matter.

L. The Common Agenda

Foreign Ministry Official: Prime Minister Hashimoto referred to the six areas that were added to the Common Agenda. They are mentioned specifically in the message from the two leaders to the peoples of the two countries. It is paragraph 16, on the last page. The new areas are infectious diseases, the improvement of the global food supply, the strengthening of civil society, support for democratization in developing and newly emerging countries, the mitigation of damage from natural disasters, the use of technology in education, and the fight against terrorism. Prime Minister Hashimoto also said, with regard to the Common Agenda, that there are probably other things that we need to do for the future of the world. In response, President Clinton said that the United States was making efforts for progress on the Common Agenda, and he welcomed the progress made in such areas as Polio eradication and natural disasters.

M. People-to-People Exchanges

Foreign Ministry Official: Finally, they discussed people-to-people exchanges. Prime Minister Hashimoto said that in order to achieve broad based exchanges between the two countries, exchanges of young people between the two countries was particularly important. President Clinton expressed his appreciation for the Prime Minister's initiatives in the exchange of students. He also added that he would not be what he is today, if it were not for the Fulbright Scholarship.

These are the points that I wanted to make, and I will be delighted to respond to any questions that you might have.

IV. Further Matters on the Bilateral Trade Relationship

Q: On President Clinton, what is your impression of his reaction to the assessments on the various bilateral issues that you mention, from the Japanese side, for example that the films thing should be resolved by the anti-monopoly -- was there any give and take, or was it just both people stating their views?

A: I will tell you in more detail what President Clinton said. He said on insurance that he hoped agreement would be achieved by 1 June.

Q: Who said that?

A: President Clinton. And, on semiconductors, he said that he recognized that this was a difficult issue for both sides. He said that he hoped that the two sides could reach a conclusion by the end of July through creative talks. He said this was a question of monitoring by the two governments. On civil aviation, he referred to the agreement in the air cargo area, and he said he was aware of Japan's wishes to initiate talks on passenger services. On photographic film, he said that he would like for the two sides to endeavor to resolve this issue.

Q: Is that something new?

A: That is not new. The Fair Trade Commission (FTC) has already initiated investigations on inter-company transactions in this area, in view of the oligopolistic structure of this industry in Japan.

Q: It sounds like he is agreeing with the Japanese on this particular issue of film, which the Japanese have always maintained it was a company-to-company kind of thing.

A: Actually, on these four issues, President Clinton spoke first.

Q: I mean President Clinton's position now, as you related to us, sounds like he is agreeing with the Japanese contention that this is just a fight between two companies, so the governments shouldn't be involved with it -- because, you said Clinton said it is a matter he hopes the two sides will resolve, meaning the two companies, I assume.

A: No, I think he was referring to governments.

Q: Oh, he is still considering it.

A: He did not say companies.

V. Further Matters on the Bilateral Security Relationship

Q: On page four of the security document, there is a paragraph that refers to studies on bilateral cooperation

in dealing with situations that may emerge in the areas surrounding Japan. Does that represent or point toward an extension of the scope of the Security Treaty as it has existed up to now, or is it a reiteration of what you have already provided for in the Security Treaty?

A: No. It does not imply an extension of the scope of the Security Treaty. Let me give you a little bit of background on this. The existing guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation were drawn up in 1978. The existing guidelines are based on the previous defense program outline of 1976. What the guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation of 1978 did was lay down the guidelines for studies on the modalities of Japan-U.S. defense cooperation in three areas: a) postures for deterring aggression, b) action in response to an armed attack against Japan, and c) Japan-U.S. cooperation in the case of situations in the Far East, outside of Japan, which would have an important influence on the security of Japan. This is the previous guideline. Since the defense program outline was renewed in November, a revision of the defense cooperation guidelines is also in order. That is the background to this.

Q: The wording of the third section in the 1976 document is almost identical to this wording, is it not?

A: I could say that it is similar, but not identical.

Q: Could you just repeat it again? I didn't get it.

A: The 1976 document refers to Japan-U.S. cooperation in the case of situations in the Far East, outside of Japan, which will have an important influence on the security of Japan. But, the new guidelines of course, will have to be based on the new defense program outline. I think you are aware of the contents of the new defense program.

VI. Further Matters Relating to Trade and Economic Relations

Q: Did the President respond to the Prime Minister's statement that he would like to see more flexibility from the U.S. on insurance?

A: No.

VII. Matters Relating to U.S.-China Relations and Most Favored Nation (MFN) Status

Q: I just want to confirm two points. You said that Clinton told Hashimoto on the U.S. and China's MFN status, that it would be difficult to do so for — could you repeat exactly what you said Clinton said?

A: I did not say that.

Q: Something about commercial—

A: WTO.

Q: Yes, WTO. Hashimoto hoped for —.

A: Let me repeat what I said. Prime Minister Hashimoto said that Japan supported the early accession of China to the WTO. And, in response to this, President Clinton said that basically, the United States supported China's accession to the WTO, but before that, certain commercial conditions had to be met — it was important for China to meet certain commercial conditions.

Q: In the Japanese language it may be clear. When my question was asked, the response from one of your colleagues was, [Japanese], implying that internal American domestic conditions were difficult. He was probably referring to opposition in Congress to China's accession to the WTO. Did Clinton also mention any domestic pressure, or domestic difficulties?

A: I was also in that briefing and my impression was that this was being discussed in the context of extension of MFN. I think the briefer said that there were very critical voices in the United States regarding MFN.

Q: Right. Were those voices commercial voices or governmental voices? What was said, or was it just left generally?

A: The briefer in the Japanese briefing made a very general statement, and he was not more specific about that. So, there is no way I can answer that question. I was not in the meeting myself.

Q: Are those the briefer's words that it is severe domestic considerations, or did the President refer in any way to domestic conditions regarding China?

A: He said that there were very critical voices. It was not a direct quote.

Q: What did the President say about domestic —.

A: I can only say what the briefer said. The briefer said that the President explained that there were critical voices in the United States with regard to MFN.

Q: Yes, but critical voices in the U.S. is quite a different translation from domestic conditions are strict, would you not agree? That is a very, very different interpretation, so what we are trying to find out here is what specifically Clinton said vis-a-vis domestic pressure in the U.S. — whether that pressure was commercial pressure or governmental pressure.

A: As much as I would like to, I cannot answer that question, because I was not in the meeting. I have nothing to add to what Mr. Kono, the other briefer, said.

VIII. The Number of Agreements Reached between Japan and the United States

Q: On the number of agreements that Clinton said that had been reached — was it 20 agreements?

A: Yes, in the Meeting he said 20.

Q: Ok. The Japanese press conference said 21. Which is it, 20 or 21?

A: Our understanding is that in the meeting, President Clinton said 20, and in the Press Conference he said 21.

IX. Japan-U.S. Cooperation on Ballistic Missile Defense

Q: About the Security Declaration, page five, bracket. It says in the last two lines, "They will work together to prevent proliferation and will continue to cooperate in the ongoing study on ballistic missile defense." Can we interpret this as an official endorsement at the highest level?

A: There is nothing new in this, because cooperation on ballistic missile defense (BMD) between the two governments has been going on for some time now. And, I am sure that the cooperation has been going on with the knowledge of the top leaders of the two governments, given the importance of this issue.

Q: What I want to say is the fact that the prime minister of Japan and the President of the United States specifically mentioned in this very important security declaration about continuous cooperation and study of ballistic missile defense. Is it not an official endorsement — the go-ahead?

A: Do you mean the go-ahead with the deployment of BMD?

Q: The go-ahead with ongoing studies.

A: I would say it is a reaffirmation of the top leaders. Everything else in the document is a reaffirmation at the highest government level on defense cooperation.

X. Security Matters Relating to U.S. Troop Levels in Japan

Q: On page three, the current force structure of 100,000 U.S. troops in the region, and then a somewhat more vague reference to U.S. troops in Japan at about the current level. Does that mean that there is in fact some steps for a small reduction of U.S. troops in Japan from the present 47,000?

A: No. I do not think so. The figure 47,000 is the level of forces that the United States deems necessary for the United States to preform its duties under the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. This figure was arrived at after a very

thorough assessment of the security environment in this part of the world. It is the position of the Government of Japan to respect the considered judgement of the United States on this matter.

Q: If the security situation changes in this region — the Korean Peninsula is unified, for example — then one could argue that the troop level could change. Could we not?

A: As I said, this 47,000 was reached after a thorough assessment of the security environment. So, if there are major changes in the security environment, then there can be changes in troop levels.

Q: This document is called an Alliance for the 21st Century, and it mentions the specific number of 100,000 troops in the region. How long can this type of agreement last? When will it be up for revision? What is your understanding? Is it a 10-year agreement? Or a 20-year?

A: This is not an agreement in the legal sense. It is a political declaration issued by the two leaders of the two countries. A treaty usually says, "this agreement will expire after ten years," or something like that.

Q: So, this is just indefinite? With the understanding of the Japanese Government, how long do you expect this idea of having 100,000 troops and the Alliance to last?

A: I think it is better to ask the United States that question. It depends on the security environment. It is impossible to predict what the situation in this part of the world will look like five or ten years from now.

Q: So, it could change from this number in the next five or ten years?

A: That sounds like a loaded question.

Q: Not really. Does this mean you think that America is going to keep this number of troops in the Far East until the 21st century ends — for ever, as far as you're concerned? I assume you have some kind of understanding on this. What is your interpretation on this? Because, I am wondering how you regard this kind of language — not an agreement, an alliance.

A: This declaration is based on the assessment of the current situation. It is impossible to tell if there will be major changes in the picture in the next few years, in five years from now, or ten years from now. So, I really cannot answer that question.

Q: So, as long as the current situation continues roughly as it is, this will hold? Then, if the current situation changes, can you expect changes to come to light?

A: I do not know how meaningful answering that question is, beyond what I have told you.

XI. The Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)

Q: Does the ACSA imply an evolution on the three principles?

A: Do you mean the three principles on arms exports? Are you referring to that?

Q: Yes.

A: The Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA), Article II, paragraph three, says that paragraph two of this Article shall not be interpreted as to include the provision of ammunition. However, the list of items covered by the three principles is broader than that. For example, the list includes spare parts for military aircraft. Under the ACSA, it is possible to provide spare parts for military aircraft. The Government has already said the three principles on arms exports will not apply to that extent. Did you understand?

Q: Yes. So, there is an exception actually?

A: So, an exception is being made to the three principles. But, this is not the first time. In 1983, we concluded an agreement with the United States on the provision of military technology to the United States. At that time, we declared that the three principles would not be applicable to this.

Q: He says that the President says that he understands or recognizes Japan's request for the air passenger talks. Did he go beyond that? Did he make any comment?

A: That is all he said.

Q: I think Defense Secretary Perry was quoted as saying that this troop document is something like the most important document of its kind to be issued since the end of the Cold War. Does it, in fact tell us anything new about the defense relationship that we didn't know already or that had not been published?

A: The security document is a very comprehensive and detailed document. It sums up the security dialogue that has been conducted for the past year, and maybe a little more than that. I can say that it covers all the important elements of the dialogue.

Q: You said that President Clinton expressed his hope to Prime Minister Hashimoto to find a resolution to the semiconductor problem to be reached by the end of July. Did Prime Minister Hashimoto have any thoughts on this?

Q: You attended the part where Hashimoto said there was no need to put it in the current agreement, as far as

semiconductors are concerned. Did the President react at all to the Prime Minister's declaration that there is no need to extend the bilateral semiconductor agreement?

A: No. What was your question?

Q: What was Prime Minister Hashimoto's response to the President's hope that an agreement be reached by the end of July?

A: He said on semiconductors that he was not repeating his position on this. He just said that the role of the agreement was over.

Q: So, then there was no response on by the end of July?

A: He said that talks were now being held between the semiconductor industries of the two countries, and that he hoped that the talks would achieve good results. That is what he said.

Q: I gathered from the way you've been briefing that the economic issues didn't take up a lot of time. Most of the hour and 45 minutes were spent discussing security issues. Only 20 minutes may have been devoted to the economic and bilateral issues?

A: They discussed a large number of issues; I did not count, but more than ten issues. I gave you a list of the issues discussed in Meeting.

Q: In the economic bilateral area?

A: No, not just in the economic area, but on everything.

Q: I am referring to the economic and trade issues. That was a very small part of their discussion.

A: I do not know whether it was a very small part. The same question was asked in the briefing session for the Japanese press. The briefer said that it would not be very useful to answer that question, because it depends on how rapidly the two leaders spoke. In the first part of the Meeting they spoke very slowly, but in the latter part of the meeting they were running out of time, and they spoke more rapidly. So, discussing how many minutes were spent on a particular subject was not very meaningful.

Q: Add up the words.

Q: The bilateral Security Treaty which Japan and the United States has been evolving on the basis of mainly containing communism in the region. That was the enemy or the danger to contain. But, now the situation has very much changed. Communism has broken down at its very base. The bases locations — the geopolitical impacts of that — you have a similar situation between the Philippines and America. The bases were closed

there, because the Philippines thought there was no need for that when China was no longer an enemy for them. Do you see anything in the future developing in that direction? Has it already been taken out? I am asking two things: the security bilateral, and the positioning of the bases mainly in Okinawa. Who is the enemy?

A: The Security Treaty does not have any hypothetical enemies. It is not directed at any hypothetical enemy. It never was.

Q: Security against what?

A: The reason why we need the Security Treaty is discussed in the security document. There is an assessment of the regional situation — why, against this background, the Security Treaty is necessary. I hope you take a good look at the security document.

Q: I am still trying to understand security against what? Security to stop something? What is it? Is it internal?

A: Do you have the document?

Q: Which document?

A: The security document.

Q: I have one that just says Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security.

A: And, have you read the document?

Q: I just got it, so I have not.

A: I hope you take a good look at it.

Q: Do you want me to read it and come back with questions next time?

A: Sure.

Q: Ok, great.

XII. Assessment of the Summit's Success

Q: This summit was billed in advance as the most important summit since the end of the Cold War. Did it live up to those expectations?

A: I think it was a very important summit, and a very successful summit. Everybody here in Japan is very happy with what was achieved in the Summit. It fully lived up to our expectations, and perhaps achieved more than that.

Q: In President Clinton's statements this afternoon, he said regarding trade issues that "for the first time, I wanted everyone to be clear we have established a process to resolve problems in an efficient and pragmatic manner. What is your interpretation of that? Some new process? Or is he reaffirming an old process? What is this, "we have established a process?"

A: It would be extremely presumptuous of me to attempt to put words in President Clinton's mouth.

Q: Then, how does the Japanese side interpret that?

A: I have not discussed this with my colleagues yet, so I can only give you my personal impression. I think he is referring to the framework talks process.

Q: So, he is reaffirming commitment to that.

A: That is my impression, yes.

Q: You said it went beyond your expectations. In what way?

A: That was a slip of the tongue. I was just giving my personal impressions of the atmosphere, the contents of the documents.

Q: Then everything went as orchestrated then?

A: I do not like the word orchestrated.

Q: There were no surprises?

A: No.

Q: Were there any frank exchanges?

A: What do you mean by frank exchanges?

Q: The word frank —.

A: Are you using it in the way journalists usually do?

Q: In the way diplomats use it.

A: I was not in the meeting, so I cannot give you a very personal account of what happened in the meeting. But, I am sure it was a very cordial, friendly meeting. Discussions between the United States and Japan are always frank — not in the diplomatic sense.

Q: I thought in a diplomatic sense, frank means that the two sides disagree with each other, but try to be polite about it.

A: I was not using the word frank in that sense. I am using the word frank as an average man on the street would use it.

Q: How many people were in the room?

A: There were two sessions. There was a *tete-a-tete* — the strictest sense of the word. We call it a *tete-a-tete*, though. There was this restricted meeting, then a larger meeting.

Q: Did they call each other Bill and Ryu?

A: Yes, they have been calling each other Bill and Ryu since Santa Monica.

Official of the International Press Division: Ladies and gentlemen, are there any other questions? Let us close the briefing session. Thank you very much.

Japan: Business Leaders Support Security Alliance With U.S.

OW1704132996 Tokyo KYODO in English
1250 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO — Business leaders welcomed Wednesday [17 April] a joint statement issued by U.S. President Bill Clinton and Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, which reaffirmed the security arrangement between the two countries.

"The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty is essential not only for the security of Japan but for peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region," said Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

Toyoda's view was echoed by Kosaku Inaba, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, who said the treaty plays an important role in the stability in east Asia.

Inaba also welcomed a Japan-U.S. agreement to consolidate and realign U.S. military bases on Okinawa.

Jiro Nemoto, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), said it may be time for Japan to provide logistics support to U.S. forces in emergency within the framework of the Constitution.

The Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai) earlier proposed that Japan take measures for a collective self-defense arrangement.

Japan: PRC Spokesman Shen on Japan-U.S. Security Statement

OW1804081996 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1015 GMT 17 Apr 96

[Report on NHK interview with Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Shen Guofang; from the "NHK News" program; Shen's remarks given in Mandarin with Japanese subtitles; time and place of interview not given; Shen's remarks translated from Mandarin]

[FBIS Translated Text] In connection with the current Japan-U.S. summit talks, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Shen Guofang granted an interview to NHK and stated the following:

[Begin recording] [Shen] The Japan-U.S. security treaty is an arrangement made for mutual defense due to historical reasons. In this connection, we hope that it will not exceed the range for mutual defense because

once it exceeds this range, it will add a destabilizing factor, a complicated factor, to peace and stability in the region. [end recording]

Moreover, spokesman Shen added: If the Japanese Self-Defense Forces [SDF] should try at its military buildup or expand the range of its defense, it will force various Asian countries to exercise enhanced alertness. Therefore, we hope that the Japanese Government will approach this issue with great caution. In this way, Shen expressed a strong warning against the SDF's military buildup or expansion of its role.

At the same time, concerning the fact that both Japanese and U.S. leaders appealed in the joint declaration for strengthening their cooperation with China, spokesman Shen stated that as far as China is concerned, China intends to strengthen our cooperative relations with Japan and the United States for the purpose of defending world peace and stability. Thus, he expressed China's intention to welcome this appeal.

Japan: More PRC Comments on Japan-U.S. 'Security Treaty'

OW1804105296 Tokyo KYODO in English
1025 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, April 18 KYODO — China expressed concern Thursday [18 April] over any expanded role for Japan's self-defense forces and warned against extending the Japanese-U.S. security treaty into other regional issues.

However, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang voiced no opposition to the ideological premises for maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region as expressed in a joint security declaration signed Wednesday by Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton in Tokyo.

"If the Japanese self-defense forces further build up their armaments and expand the scope of their defense, this would be bound to cause the concern and vigilance of all other Asian nations. It is our hope that Japan will move with caution," Shen said at a briefing.

The Japanese-U.S. security arrangement "should not go beyond its bilateral nature, otherwise complex factors will be brought to the situation in the region," he said.

Shen further said peace and stability in the world should be maintained on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence, a cornerstone of Chinese foreign policy, as expounded by the late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai.

He indirectly addressed Beijing's live-fire military exercises last month in the Taiwan strait which greatly increased tension in the area and was likely one underlying factor behind Wednesday's joint declaration.

"The issue of Taiwan is a Chinese domestic affair. We are opposed to any other nation interfering in China's domestic affairs in any fashion," he said.

Shen also refused to reveal what specific topics Chinese foreign minister Qian Qichen and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will discuss Friday in a meeting in the Dutch capital of The Hague but said both men will review recent issues in Sino-U.S. relations and attempt to resolve them.

"It is our hope the two sides will have a good relationship with each other so as to make joint efforts for peace and stability in the world," Shen said, while commenting on the need expressed in the U.S.-Japan joint declaration for Tokyo and Washington to engage Beijing.

"The two sides need to cooperate with each other in addressing many issues. For these two big countries to fail to cooperate and only practice confrontation with each other would be unimaginable," he said.

Shen also said China has not held consultations with North Korea concerning Tuesday's proposal by Clinton and South Korean President Kim Yong-sam to hold four-way talks among the two Koreas, China and the U.S. on a new peace mechanism for the Korean peninsula.

"As the U.S. and south korea have just put forward the proposal, there remain differences in terms of the modality of the negotiations and the scope of participation among the parties concerned. Therefore, detailed contacts have yet to be made in regard to this matter," he said.

Japan: Chief Cabinet Secretary Kajiyama on ACSA Conclusion

OW1804001096 (Internet) Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs WWW in English 18 Apr 96

[Statement by Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama on the signing of the "Agreement Between the Government of Japan and the Government of the U.S.A. Concerning Reciprocal Provision of Logistic Support, Supplies and Services Between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Armed Forces of the U.S.A." issued on 15 April; from the "What's New" link of the special Clinton home page]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] 1. The Government of Japan has been making a careful internal study of the pos-

sibility of establishing a framework similar to the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreements between the United States and the member countries of NATO, and others. At the same time, Japan has been coordinating with the U.S.. As a result, at the Cabinet Meeting today, it was decided to sign the "Agreement Between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Reciprocal Provision of Logistic Support, Supplies and Services Between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Armed Forces of the United States of America," which establishes the framework for providing reciprocally between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Armed Forces of the U.S.A. supplies and services necessary for their bilateral exercises and training, and for the conduct of UN Peacekeeping Operations or humanitarian international relief operations. This Agreement will promote close cooperation between the Japan Self-Defense Forces and the U.S. Armed Forces, thereby positively contributing to smooth and effective operation of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and to the efforts for international peace, centering on the United Nations.

2. The reciprocal provision of supplies and services under this Agreement will cover food; water; billeting; transportation; petroleum, oils and lubricants; clothing; communications; spare parts and components, etc. There is a possibility that parts of these items may contain what the three principles on arms exports and collateral policy guidelines define as "arms and arms production-related equipment." The Government of Japan has dealt cautiously with the export of arms and arms production-related equipment pursuant to the three principles. However, in view of the contents and significance of the Agreement mentioned in 1. above, the Government of Japan will not apply the three principles to the provision of arms and arms production-related equipment under the Agreement. In this case, the Agreement stipulates that the provision is limited to the U.S. Armed Forces and forbids the receiving Party to use the supplies and services in ways that are inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations or to transfer them to a third party without prior consent of the providing Party. Therefore, the basic concepts of the three principles, that is, to avoid the escalation of international conflicts, will be firmly upheld.

3. As it announced in the statement made by the Chief Cabinet Secretary on November 28, 1995, in regard to the three principles on arms exports and collateral policy guidelines, the Government of Japan will maintain its basic concepts, that is, to avoid the escalation of international conflicts, while keeping harmony with the effective operation of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements through enhancement of a

broad mutual exchange in the areas of equipment and technology.

Japan: Significance of Joint Security Statement Praised

OW1804100696 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN
(Morning Edition) in Japanese 18 Apr 96 p 3

[Editorial: "For Rebuilding the Japan-U.S. Security Ties Toward the 21st Century"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "They (the prime minister and President) reaffirmed that the Japan-U.S. security relationship, based on the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between Japan and the United States of America, remains the cornerstone...[ellipses as published] for maintaining a stable and prosperous environment for the Asia-Pacific region as we enter the 21st century."

So read the joint declaration on security issued by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and President Bill Clinton after the 17 April summit meeting, thereby confirming the lasting importance of Japan-U.S. security ties, despite the end of the Cold War.

It was significant that the leaders of the two nations, whose combined gross domestic product (GDP) accounts for 40 percent of the world's GDP, displayed their determination in this regard at home and to foreign countries.

We support them and their reaffirmation of the importance of the bilateral security bond.

The Soviet Union, once considered the primary target of the Japan-U.S. security treaty, has disappeared, bringing the confrontation between East and West to an end. However, destabilizing factors, such as regional conflicts of an ethnic or religious nature, are on the rise.

The reaffirmation of security ties by the leaders was intended to make clear that the alliance will continue to play a "stabilizing role" in the Asia-Pacific region and should respond to the many changes in the international situation following the Cold War.

It also represents the beginning of renewed efforts by Japan and the United States to reconstruct the alliance.

The nations have already made significant progress in resolving the issue of reducing and consolidating U.S. bases in Okinawa Prefecture, including the planned return of the Futenma air station.

We welcome this achievement because the security arrangement cannot survive without the public's support.

Among new forms of cooperation, the joint declaration mentioned initiating a revision of the 1978 guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation to study how the two

nations can cooperate in emergencies in areas around Japan. The declaration also noted the conclusion of the "acquisition and cross-servicing agreement (ACSA)."

The Japanese and U.S. Governments stressed that such cooperation "will be enhanced within the bounds of Japan's Constitution."

We hope the two nations will succeed in such efforts, so that bilateral security arrangements can function smoothly and effectively, producing practical results even in the event of an emergency.

To realize this, Japan cannot avoid addressing the issue of "collective self-defense rights." The government continues to maintain that "the nation cannot join" other countries in collective defense actions "because of constitutional constraints."

However, a growing number of lawmakers in both the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and opposition New Frontier Party question that interpretation. They say that "exercising the right to collective self-defense would not violate the Constitution." The coalition-partner Social Democratic Party has traditionally opposed the concept of collective self-defense. However, since the party reversed itself in 1994 and came to support the Japan-U.S. security treaty, the main parties — excluding the Japan Communist Party — are gradually finding common ground for discussion.

The government's present interpretation of collective self-defense obscures exactly how and how much this nation can support the U.S. forces. It raises the question of whether the bilateral security setup would actually function in a crisis.

Therefore, thorough debate in the Diet and elsewhere on the nation's right to collective self-defense is keenly awaited. It would help consolidate ongoing efforts to reconstruct Japan-U.S. security ties.

The nation must abandon the naive, simplistic mindset so common during the cold war, in which the overriding concern is whether "security ties pose the risk of involving Japan in war."

We need cool-headed, objective discussion on how this country can contribute to ensuring "peace for both Japan and neighboring regions" — which the Japan-U.S. security arrangements aim at.

Another vital factor in rebuilding the alliance is cooperation on the economic front. During their meeting, Hashimoto and Clinton emphasized the need to continue bilateral cooperation based on previous achievements, such as last year's automotive agreement.

We urge the resolution of other economic problems, including liberalization of the insurance market and the conflict over the Japan-U.S. semiconductor agreement, so that these individual issues will not undermine overall relations.

Japan: 'Long-Term' Implications of Military Ties Stressed

OW1804084196 Tokyo KYODO in English
0757 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — Japan's major dailies focused on the reaffirmation of the Japan-U.S. security alliance in their editorials Thursday [18 April] about U.S. President Bill Clinton's state visit to Japan, citing concerns about the long-term implications of military ties.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said in an editorial that there was no reason "not to feel a burden" just because acrimonious trade issues took the back seat in the security-oriented summit talks between Clinton and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

The "heavy burden" this time, it said, was that the reaffirmation of the security alliance between Japan and the United States effectively pushes China out of a previously fairly balanced triangular relationship.

"Why a 'strengthening' of the security relationship? Unpredictable North Korea might be one reason. The securing of stable energy supplies another. But we should also not forget one other factor, the direction China might go," the paper said.

The ASAHI SHIMBUN is highly critical of the outcome of the Tokyo summit, arguing that Japan might not be aware of what it has landed itself in when pledging to review defense cooperation guidelines with a view to contingencies in "the areas surrounding Japan."

"Haven't these agreements above all changed the nature of the security treaty system into one obliging Japan to assist (the U.S.)?" The ASAHI asked in an editorial.

Calling the objectives of the joint security declaration signed after the summit a "de facto revision" of the security treaty, the paper blasted the government for sidestepping the Diet in making such a major policy change.

It voiced concern that the U.S. could exploit the vague definition of the area of action to engage Japanese troops in bilateral defense cooperation throughout the entire Asia-Pacific region.

Noting the Japanese Government has so far maintained that the "Far East" covered by the security treaty does not include North Korea and China, two likely sources

of instability in the region, the ASAHI said, "isn't this handing the American government a carte blanche regarding the U.S. troops' scope of action?"

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN wholeheartedly welcomed the summit outcome and urged that both sides "smoothly and effectively" work for the planned revision of the defense cooperation guidelines.

The editorial also expressed confidence that against the backdrop of a strengthened alliance, Japan should be able to start an active constitutional debate as to what duties its military could take on in the future.

"We must rid ourselves of this Cold War style of thinking that the security treaty could drag Japan into a war," the paper said in urging a "calm and objective" public discourse.

The economic daily NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN judged the Hashimoto-Clinton meeting as the "first real bilateral summit" since Clinton took power three years ago.

It said in contrast to Clinton's meetings with three previous Japanese prime ministers, the Tokyo talks had brought "an overall change of atmosphere" in bilateral ties and built good rapport between the leaders.

While saying that the planned revision of the defense cooperation guidelines also reflects Japan's changed role in the world community, the economic daily stressed that the Diet must be involved in any further debate on security issues.

Japan: 'Analysis' Views Post-Cold War Era, Security Role

OW1804063296 Tokyo KYODO in English
0624 GMT 18 Apr 96

["News Analysis" by Takehiko Kajita]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — With the redefining of its security alliance with the United States, Japan set sail for uncharted waters in post-Cold War regional military collaboration.

A joint declaration issued by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton on Wednesday [17 April] is intended to reinforce the importance of the bilateral security partnership to cope with remaining destabilizing factors in east Asia.

The latest redefinition of the Japan-U.S. security alliance features a shift in Tokyo's exclusively national defense-oriented security posture in a way that clears the way for its role in maintaining regional security.

The two leaders praised the solid bilateral military alliance amid jitters about recent regional tensions,

including China's saber-rattling over Taiwan and North Korea's violations of the armistice on the Korean peninsula. But officials brush this aside as purely coincidental.

"As we always say, the Japan-U.S. security regime is intended to ensure peace and stability in east Asia in the post-Cold War era. It does not aim to contain China or North Korea at all," a Foreign Ministry source said.

However, a related bilateral agreement to study how and to what extent Japan will assist the U.S. in times of emergency in the Far East could trigger heated debate about Japan's war-renouncing Constitution — a daunting task for Hashimoto to tackle.

Under the accord, the two countries will revise the 1978 bilateral defense guidelines that primarily delineate how they would cooperate in responding to potential or actual attacks on Japan.

In the planned review, attention will likely be on how specifically Japan would assist the U.S. in the event of crises in the Far East.

Although Washington apparently hopes the revision of the guidelines will lead to logistical support of U.S. forces by Japanese Self-Defense Forces in case of military conflicts in the region, Tokyo will inevitably find itself in a difficult position because such cooperation could run counter to Japan's constitutional prohibition of collective defense.

"This is the beginning of our efforts to have the Japan-U.S. relationship really function, including in times of emergency, and preserve the political alliance that we have treasured to date," said Motoo Shiina, a nonaffiliate member in the House of Councillors.

An emerging challenge to the nation's decades-old constitutional limits comes as a result of a bilateral agreement last week to close within five to seven years the Futenma air station, a huge and noisy facility in the southwestern Japan prefecture of Okinawa.

The Futenma base, located in the middle of a densely populated community, has been regarded as a symbol of Okinawans' heavy burden of hosting the U.S. military.

The island prefecture is home to about 75 percent of all land occupied by the U.S. military and about 28,000 of the 47,000 U.S. service personnel in Japan, although it makes up only 0.6 percent of the country's total land area.

The turnover of the land used by the U.S. air base might be a major U.S. concession in the course of bilateral talks on consolidating and downsizing the U.S. military structure in Okinawa, which have been held

following the abduction and rape last September of a local schoolgirl by three U.S. soldiers.

On the other hand, Japan also has a big task on its own hands, as the closure of the Futenma base hinges on the relocation of its functions to other installations in Japan, which will probably bring about calls of "not in my backyard" anywhere in the nation.

Despite his bold political decision on the removal of the base, offset by antibase sentiment outside Okinawa, it is unclear whether Hashimoto can win back voters' support and tighten his grip on power amid his recently flagging leadership.

"It will be very tough to craft a program to implement what Japan and the U.S. agreed. As the accord was reached because Japan wanted (the Futenma base site) back, the ball is in Japan's court," said a high-ranking Defense Agency official, who asked to remain anonymous.

Critics say Japan and the U.S., under the pretext of strengthening the mutual security apparatus in its new post-Cold War setting, are maneuvering to expand its geographical scope from defense of Japan and the Far East to the entire Asia-Pacific region.

But Foreign Ministry officials deny speculation that the nature of the security arrangements was altered because of the reaffirmation of the importance of bilateral military relations.

"It is strange to say the nature of the security pact was altered. We have neither revised the treaty itself nor changed our interpretation of it," said a ministry official. "We are just trying to study to what extent we can do now what we could not do in the Cold War period."

Japan: ROK Notes Shifting Scope of U.S. Military Alliance

OW1804090496 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1016 GMT 17 Apr 96

[From the "NHK News" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Regarding the Japan-U.S. declaration on peace, the ROK Government has not made any official reaction.

However, in response to NHK efforts to collect news, an ROK government source indicates that the ROK Government understands that the emphasis of the Japan-U.S. security setup has been gradually shifted from the defense of Japan to maintenance of peace in the Asian region, thereby indicating a certain appreciation of the fact that Japan will take up the role of supporting the United States in such fields as so-called logistic support.

Nevertheless, the same source also disclosed that as far as the ROK is concerned, it is alert against the possibility that Japan may strengthen its defense capability under the pretext of participating in joint actions with U.S. forces and exercise its influence directly or indirectly, in case of emergencies, on the Korean peninsula, thereby resulting in military intervention onto the Korean peninsula.

Japan: PRC Spokesman Favors ROK Participation in Quad Talks

OW1804072496 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN (Morning Edition) in Japanese 17 Apr 96 p 9

[By Michiyoshi Isogawa]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 16 Apr — Shen Guofang, PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman, showed a strong interest in the quadrilateral meeting on a peace agreement for the Korean peninsula proposed at the U.S.-ROK summit meeting on 16 April. He also indicated that the ROK should participate in the talks, showing a difference in position with the DPRK (North Korea).

Regarding the quadrilateral talks, Shen said that "the substance of the proposal is not clear, so I cannot make detailed comments." However, he also stated: "China is a party to the armistice agreement. We have played a positive role in maintaining peace and stability on the peninsula. We expect to continue to do so." He indicated China's intention to continue to play an active role in the situation on the Korean peninsula.

Shen further said: "The ROK is not a signatory (to the armistice), but it is a direct participant [chokusetsu no tojisha]." This showed a clear difference in the PRC's position from that of the DPRK, which wants to discuss the transition to a peace agreement only with the United States.

Japan: DPRK Video Obtained Showing Kim Chong-il in Feb

OW1804083196 Tokyo SAPIO in Japanese 24 Apr 96 pp 106-107

[FBIS Translated Text] Reports of a flow of "privileged class" people defecting from North Korea and of foiled military coup attempts there may be signs that the dictatorial system of that country may be breaking down. Now we have the following to report to you on North Korea:

Our editorial department has obtained a set of videotapes that can provide valuable clues about the domestic situation of North Korea and the activities of Kim Chong-il, secretary of the Workers Party of Korea

[WPK] and the most powerful man of that nation. The videotapes record a program broadcast by Mansudae Television Station on Secretary Kim Chong-il's birthday (16 February) and the following day, which runs a total of nine hours.

The program shows ceaseless propaganda scenes aimed at "deifying" Secretary Kim Chong-il and "making his power absolute," while introducing various events to commemorate the birthday of the "great leader of our party and people" (as Secretary Kim Chong-il is called in North Korea) which included a tug-of-war played by military personnel, an ice show, a song festival, and so forth.

How Is Kim Chong-il's Marksmanship?

The program touts the greatness of Kim Chong-il, going back to the days of his birth at a secluded cottage on Mt. Paektu, where he is supposed to have been born (though actually born in the suburbs of Vladivostok in the former Soviet Union). By showing many scenes of him with the late Kim Il-song in the work of leading the nation, it tries to emphasize the "legitimacy" of Kim Chong-il as a successor.

It also contains many noteworthy scenes that have not been verified in Japan.

In one scene, Kim Chong-il is shown participating in a shooting drill. Kim Chong-il fires several rounds slowly from a Walther-P38. Then he shoots an SKS rifle from a prone position. Since each scene of his shooting is followed by a scene of bullets hitting a target, in the video he is a "tremendous marksman" who can hit the bullseye 100 percent of the time. But he does not have his arm straight when he fires the pistol. From this, one can see easily that he is not very familiar with shooting.

Another scene shows publicly for the first time the new MiG-23 Flotger [as published] fighter planes of the DPRK air force. Still another scene introduces a "personally signed" document with Kim Chong-il's peculiar slanted signature. This can be also evidence that he is actually participating in governing functions.

Uneasiness of North Korea Shown in Propaganda Scenes

The program also shows frequent scenes of Kim Chong-il holding talks with such first-generation revolutionaries (former anti-Japanese partisans who fought the old Japanese Army) as Choe Kwang, then Army chief of staff (now defense minister), and O Chin-u, then defense minister (who has since died).

After Kim Il-song died, Kim Chong-il appointed to important positions many second- and third-generation

revolutionaries including Chang Song-taek, his close associate and head of the WPK's Three Major Projects Department. Now, given the first-generation revolutionaries' growing discontent, Kim appears to be trying to show special consideration to the elder revolutionaries.

Besides, it has been said that Kim Chong-il, having had "little time in military service," may not be in control of the military. The scenes of him shooting guns may be intended to picture him as a "soldier" and to publicize to his nation and other countries that he is in complete control of the military.

Television programs of North Korea are well known for their inordinate propagandizing. But if that country has no choice but to go that far in order to publicize the greatness of Kim Chong-il, then it may indeed be evidence of uneasiness in Kim Chong-il and commotion in North Korea.

Japan: Hashimoto Leaves for Moscow Nuclear Safety Summit

*OW1804095596 Tokyo KYODO in English
0930 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto left for Moscow on Thursday [18 April] evening to meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin and attend a multilateral summit on nuclear safety.

On Friday, Hashimoto will hold bilateral meetings with Yeltsin and Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien before the two-day summit begins with a leaders' working dinner.

The Japan-Russia summit meeting is the first in two and a half years since Yeltsin held talks in Tokyo with then Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in October 1993. The visit is also the first to Russia by a Japanese prime minister in 11 years since Yasuhiro Nakasone visited Moscow in 1985.

"It would be good to confirm the (1993) Tokyo declaration and pave the way for the future without having further discussions (at present). I would like to proceed with diplomacy for the return of the northern territories after the (Russian) presidential election," Hashimoto told reporters before leaving for Moscow.

The prime minister said if the bilateral territorial dispute becomes an issue in the June Russian presidential election, it may be an obstacle for future negotiations.

In the declaration signed by Yeltsin and Hosokawa, the two countries agreed to conclude a peace treaty after resolving the decades-old dispute over the islands off

Japan's northernmost main island Hokkaido on the basis of the principles of "law and justice."

The disputed islands — Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan islands and the Habomai group of islets — were seized by former Soviet Union's Red Army in the closing days of World War II.

Japan refuses to sign a peace treaty or extend large-scale financial assistance to Russia until Moscow recognizes Tokyo's sovereignty over all four contested islands.

On Saturday, there will be two rounds of summit meetings and a working lunch. This will be followed by a joint press conference by summit co-chairmen Yeltsin and French President Jacques Chirac and a press conference by Hashimoto.

Participating in the summit are leaders from the Group of Seven major industrialized nations — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States — as well as Russia and Ukraine.

Hashimoto will arrive back in Japan on Sunday.

Japan: Auto Industry Asks MITI To Counter Rising Tariffs

*OW1804052296 Tokyo KYODO in English
0501 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO — Leaders of Japan's auto industry Thursday [18 April] called for government action against recent sharp tariff hikes by Brazil and Indonesia, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

Masami Iwasaki, chairman of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, made the request during a morning gathering with MITI Minister Shumpei Tsukahara, the officials said.

Referring to sharp increases in tariffs by Brazil and Indonesia on grounds of deteriorating foreign currency holdings, Iwasaki told Tsukahara, "There are cases where the spirit of the World Trade Organization is neglected," they said.

Iwasaki, who also serves as vice chairman of Toyota Motor Corp., then asked Tsukahara to continue talks with these countries to settle the issue, they said.

Tsukahara promised to tackle the problem, replying, "It is important to abide by the spirit of the WTO," the officials said.

They quoted Tsukahara as saying, "We recognize the importance of maintaining and strengthening the multi-lateral trade system, and we've just appealed to Brazilian and Indonesian ministers (for the correction)."

Meanwhile, Yoshihiro Wada, vice association chairman and president of Mazda Motor Corp., called for a cut in the corporate tax, which is high relative to those of other major industrial countries, the officials said.

Tsukahara was quoted as replying, "It is necessary to review the tax in order to create an attractive business environment."

Japan: LDP's Kato Accused of Receiving Illegal Contributions

962B0072A Tokyo SHUKAN GENDAI in Japanese
23 Mar 96 pp 38-39

[Unattributed article: "Shigenori Mizumachi, Former Support Group Chairman, Reveals 'Kato's Efforts To Hush Up Illegal Contributions'"]

[FBIS Translated Text]

Kato Tells Moriguchi: "That Will Be Helpful"

Smack in the middle of the "Jusen Diet," Koichi Kato, Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] secretary general, who supports the Hashimoto administration, has aroused suspicion of receiving illegal contributions. It is alleged that Kato accepted 10 million yen in illegal funds in 1990 from the processed iron-frame manufacturer, Kyowa (bankrupt in May 91), which created waves throughout the political circles in a bribery scandal involving former lower house Dietman Fumio Abe. The affair has also been discussed in the Diet several times since 1992.

Every time, Kato has testified that he "remembers nothing to that effect." This time, however, a person who was present during the exchange of the illegal money in 1990 has spoken out. It is Shigenori Mizumachi (physician, age 49), former chairman of the Kowakai, a supporter group for Kato. Mizumachi revealed all about the illegal transaction to this magazine reporter as follows.

"More than a dozen years ago, I was given an opportunity to serve as the chief physician for (the then) Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, and I became acquainted with Koichi Kato, a young Diet member of the Kochikai (the then Suzuki faction and later Miyazawa faction). I perceived Kato as an especially capable politician among the younger Dietmen and asked him to serve as a go-between for my wedding.

"I supported Mr. Kato in a number of ways, and in the process I was asked in 1992 to hold for safekeeping a 10 million yen contribution to Kato from Kyowa. Subsequently, for some reason Kato began to keep a distance from me. Therefore, I attempted to return the 10 million yen to him, but his secretary repeatedly told

me that he was unable to contact him and refused to accept the money.

"In addition, Kyowa had an outstanding loan of 7.3 billion yen from the Housing Loan Service, a major company of 'jusen' [housing loan companies], and was on the list of large-loan recipients. On 16 February, Kato was questioned in the Diet concerning his relationship with Kyowa.

"Under such circumstances, I could have become a scapegoat for Kato concerning the 10 million yen illegal contribution from Kyowa. Therefore, on 28 February, I deposited the 10 million yen, which I had kept for Kato, at the Cabinet Legislation Bureau as 'funds held for Mr. Kato, who had refused to accept its return.'"

Mizumachi is the director of the Mizumachi Clinic in Shinjuku, Tokyo. Eight years ago, he was appointed chairman of the Kowakai and is reported to have introduced Kato to the Kyowa firm. On 4 March, Osamu Okada, an attorney and Mizumachi's agent, held a press conference at the judicial reporters club concerning the reason for the 10 million yen deposit. However, a detailed account by Mizumachi himself concerning the illegal contribution was made to this magazine for the first time.

The coverage was conducted on 4 and 5 of March. When the reporter from this magazine stood at the door of the room at the designated hotel, someone peeked through the door lens to ascertain the identity of the visitor. Then, two bodyguards looked out through the opened but still chained door for a further check. Mizumachi who looked fatigued from the effects of the current affair, continued his account as follows.

"Let me return to the discussion on the illegal contribution. At about 9:00 PM on 31 January 1990, I was in a suite on the seventh floor of the Hotel Century Hyatt in Nishi Shinjuku with which Kyowa has a corporate contract. I waited for former Kyowa Vice President Goro Moriguchi (currently serving a prison term) in the hotel lobby, we then went up to the suite together and waited for Kato's arrival.

"After a while, Kato arrived and Moriguchi personally handed Kato a paper bag containing 10 million yen. The exchange which took place at the time was as follows.

"Mr. Kato, here is 10 million yen. This was collected from our company's business offices and there is nothing to worry about."

"When Moriguchi said this, Kato thanked him, saying: 'Well, this will be helpful.' He had a big smile on his face. While they were drinking coffee, Kato said: 'We must increase the membership of the Miyazawa

faction in the election in order to form a Miyazawa administration."

The day of 31 January 1990 was immediately prior to the general election. Kato was then director of the election policy department for the Miyazawa faction. Kyowa was supporting Fumio Abe, former director general of the Hokkaido/Okinawa Development Agency (convicted in the first trial for acceptance of 90 million yen from Kyowa and currently appealing the verdict).

"The 10 million yen was intended to provide Dietman Abe with further rear support. Abe's election prospects were in danger at the time, and Kyowa wanted to ask Mister Miyazawa to stump for him.

"Subsequently, however, Kyowa went bankrupt. It developed into a bribery scandal involving the political circles. When Dietman Abe was arrested, Kato considered his relations with Kyowa and the 10 million yen as detrimental to his position.

"Therefore, in February 1992, he pondered his move in Room 701 at the ANA Hotel in Tokyo. At the time, a furor had arisen among the Diet budget committee and the media over the flow of several tens of billion yen in Kyowa funds of ambiguous nature to the LDP. In Room 701 were Kato, his secretary Hiroshi Morita, and people from the Kochikai secretariat and the media.

"At that point, Kato said to me: 'I want you to keep that money for me. You can return it when I become prime minister or foreign minister.'

"In other words, it was an attempt to hush up the matter by entrusting it to me until the heat blew over and to pretend that he knew nothing about the 10 million yen he had received from Kyowa. On the following day, Kato's secretary Morita brought the 10 million yen to me in a paper bag."

Tape With Kato Provides Evidence!

"Since around last fall, he has been asking for the return of the 10 million yen. However, as I mentioned at the outset, we could not get in contact with Kato despite our repeated calls. He remained inaccessible.

"Therefore, on the morning of 22 February, I called Secretary Morita's residence and again mentioned the return of the 10 million yen. At that point, the secretary admitted everything—that 'we (Kato) had received the 10 million yen.' I taped that conversation as a precaution."

According to Mizumachi, the taped phone call was made on 22 February this year at about 7:40 AM from Mizumachi to the secretary's private residence.

[Mizumachi] "In effect, the money was accepted in 1990 and handed over directly to Mr. Kato by Moriguchi, was it not?"

[Secretary] "Uh-huh." (passage omitted)

[Mizumachi] "In any case, it would be inconvenient for this money to be in his hands at this time, would it not?"

[Secretary] "It is to be kept temporarily for safekeeping."

[Mizumachi] "Yes, yes. He wants it to be kept until he becomes prime minister or foreign minister, and you delivered it to me the next day, did you not?"

[Secretary] "Uh-huh."

"Kato was questioned by the Lower House Budget Committee on 17 March 1994 and he plainly lied that he 'had never accepted such money.' When he learned that I had deposited the 10 million yen (with the Cabinet Legislation Bureau), he stated that 'I feel responsible for the fact that the matter constituted a violation of the duty to report it from the standpoint of the political funds regulatory act,' as if it were a contribution to the Kowakai. It was clearly an attempt to shift the blame on to me.

"I am apparently being criticized in various ways concerning the recent affair, for example, that it is a scheme by the opposition forces within the LDP, or that I received money from the New Frontier Party (laughter). At first, I was angry, but I later felt that it was ridiculous and laughed about it. Whatever is being said, there is only one truth.

"Since it has come this far, I am ready to go anywhere and testify in a straightforward manner. If I am summoned by the prosecutor's office or the Diet, I am prepared to appear and repeat everything I have just stated.

"It is not limited to the 10 million yen in illegal contributions recently received from Kyowa. In the past, I have introduced a number of people to Kato at his request. Among them were some who handed over money on the spot. What I mean to say is that the recent incident concerning Kyowa was not the only time I was present when money exchanged hands.

"Kato as a responsible member of the ruling party should voluntarily clear up the suspicion that has befallen him. His attitude in attempting to camouflage everything with ambiguity, including the problem of settling the Jusen bad loans, is absolutely unpermissible."

Japan: Article Discusses Police-Pachinko Connection

962A0017A Tokyo SENTAKU in Japanese Jan 96
p 126

[Unattributed article: "Police Are Transforming Japan into a Las Vegas"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the recession drags on, for some reason the spotlight is on pachinko, the 20-trillion-yen industry. They say that gambling flourishes in bad times. But pachinko is the out-and-out winner over all other forms of gambling, even government-run horse and boat racing. We are now immersed in yet another of the pachinko booms that have cropped up since World War II.

Stock in pachinko-related enterprises has gained a lot of fans, and even the business community is paying close attention to the pachinko industry. Capital from leading distributors and other sources is pouring into pachinko parlors. Pachinko parlor owners are seriously considering expanding their operations by establishing chains. Leading securities firms and financial institutions are financing pachinko parlors, and investing their personnel in them as well.

Pachinko's old unhealthy, unsavory image seems to have disappeared since it is now viewed as a "growth industry." The rumor is that pachinko parlor owners will soon be offering their stock for sale.

Last summer Pachinko Tower, which claims to be the largest pachinko parlor in Japan, opened in Shibuya, Tokyo. Pachinko Tower has received massive coverage from television and other media. Fashionably dressed young people crowd the place. Designer items are packed tightly into the showcase at the premium counter, where customers can exchange the pachinko balls they have won for prizes. Young women and couples browse there. The traditional "pachinko music," *The Battleship March*, has been replaced with pop music of the easy listening sort. The air, once thick with cigarette smoke, is now filtered by a powerful air-conditioning system. The atmosphere is bright, wholesome, and showy.

A Slew of Bankruptcies

Places like Pachinko Tower are part of a movement to cultivate a new image for pachinko parlors (one that is diametrically opposed to the traditional image, which all forms of gambling share in common, i.e., danger). This "revolution" has been accompanied by another one, effected by the shift to CR (card reader) machines and the introduction of the PC (prepaid card).

CR machines come equipped with the PC system. The National Police Agency is pushing them, claiming that they will make the pachinko industry more "wholesome" because they also reveal a parlor's revenue and accounting practices, thus making the industry more "transparent." CR machines and PC systems have been available for seven years, but there has been a marked increase in the number of pachinko parlors using them in the past two or three years. More than 60 percent of the 18,000 pachinko parlors in Japan currently use these machines. This figure is expected to rise to 80 percent by the end of this year.

But these CR machines contain a terrible trap. According to an industry source, they encourage gambling more than any other machine that has appeared in the industry's history. The feature of CR machines is that once the player makes a big hit, more big hits follow. In other words, the player is on a "roll," and this feature is a tremendous attraction to pachinko fans. If they're lucky, players can make 100,000 or even 200,000 yen in one day. The down side is that if fortune doesn't smile upon them, the machine will swallow their money, and keep swallowing it, no matter how much they put in. According to an industry spokesman, the CR machines are the most dangerous, most addictive machines that have ever existed. Another industry source says that "ever since the advent of CR machines, pachinko parlors have transmogrified into gambling dens."

Reports have it that there are as many as 30 million pachinko fans in Japan, and this figure has remained fairly constant over the last 10 to 15 years. When they talk about a pachinko boom, they are referring to industry revenue, which has swelled from 5 - 6 trillion yen to 20 trillion yen over the same period of time. What this means is that pachinko enthusiasts are spending more each time they play.

Owners of pachinko parlors believe that most of their revenue comes from 20 percent of their customers. One source told us, "The regulars, 6 million of them, are responsible for 80 percent of our revenue." If that source is correct, then what the pachinko boom means is that each regular is spending 1 - 2.7 million yen on pachinko — 2.5 times more than 15 years ago. Whether a monthly outlay of over 200,000 yen is high or low depends on the circumstances of the player. However, the attribute once given the game, "the common man's pastime," no longer applies. And ever since the CR machines appeared on the scene, the unprecedented boom they engendered has produced a multitude of misfortunes.

Last summer, the body of a woman, a suicide, was found in the bathroom of a pachinko parlor in Chiba City. Her story didn't even rate filler article status in the

local newspapers, but it spread throughout the pachinko industry and sent chills down the spine of many of its members. A suicide note of sorts was found in the dead woman's coat pocket, in which she had written, "I was a slave to the CR machines."

At about the same time, there was another, similar suicide in the Kansai area. The victim, a middle-aged man, took his life at a pachinko parlor, leaving behind a note apologizing to his family for having become "addicted to CR machines." The police investigation revealed that he owed several million yen to loan sharks.

A JR East Japan publication reports that, beginning last spring, there has been an unusually large number of suicides, people who have thrown themselves in front of trains on the Chuo Line. Between April and the end of the year, there were approximately 30 such incidents, three times as many as there had been during the same period in the previous year. The rumor spreading from pachinko parlor to pachinko parlor in the area is that some of the suicides may have been motivated by the burden of loans taken out to pay for pachinko.

Many more pachinko parlors are crime scenes now. Armed robberies and even murders are committed there, because there are always huge amounts of cash in the parlors' premium centers. Most of the perpetrators claim that they were motivated by the need to repay loans they'd taken out to pay for their pachinko habits.

Gambling Dens with the Police Seal of Approval

The Consumers' Center at Tokyo Prefecture's Bureau of Citizens and Cultural Affairs offers advice to those who have fallen heavily into debt. In FY1995, the Center did approximately 630 consultations. The average debt was more than 7 million yen per person. Apparently, the number of debtors who owe loan sharks or unlicensed "financiers" has increased. According to a Center staff member, most of the people who come to them seeking advice don't say much about the circumstances that led them into heavy indebtedness. However, she has noticed an upswing in the number of people whose plights are the result of gambling, including pachinko. She estimates that 70 or 80 percent of the cases they handle fall into that category.

Business has never been better for the consumer finance industry. The owner of one company in Tokyo Prefecture reports, "During the past two or three years, I've been getting more female customers. Their husbands are corporate employees, but they have control of the household finances, which makes them good customers." On the other hand, a police officer working on the front lines told us that "recently I've been arresting a lot of

housewives for prostitution, which they took up to pay their pachinko debts."

There have been other tragedies caused by pachinko, too many to enumerate. Pachinko's victims have divorced, absconded, and declared bankruptcy. On the other side of the coin, young salarymen often talk about how they "won 300,000 yen at pachinko in one month," or how they "won 500,000 yen." Whether pachinko players are winning or losing, we know the game is causing problems because we hear so much about it.

One begins to wonder what the police, whose duty it is to control pachinko, are doing. The truth is that not only do the police not seem to be interested in supervising pachinko, they are actively supporting moves to make the game more speculative. Pachinko parlors are becoming gambling dens, with the police seal of approval. The police have abandoned their duty to society and betrayed the trust of our citizens. Our readers may find this hard to believe, but when you examine the history of CR machines and the controversy over introducing them, and the history of the relationship between the police and the pachinko industry, the proof is there.

In 1988, the police decided to promote PC systems and CR machines. The idea was to "stamp out tax evasion in the pachinko industry." In the same year, Mitsubishi Corporation spawned a company that sold PC systems, Japan Leisure Card Systems (LEC), in Tokyo. The next year, Sumitomo Corporation did the same in Osaka, christening its offspring Japan Game Card (GC).

The Taiyo Mutual Aid Association, an organization affiliated with the police, invested in both companies. The police then placed their retired career men in executive positions at LEC and GC. Just before the new machines were put on the market, the police talked pachinko parlor owners and machine manufacturers into forming a cross-industry association, the Japan Association of Amusement Businesses (Nichiyukyo). The police stacked the deck by installing a retired career bureaucrat as the Association's executive director.

But despite police "sponsorship" of PC systems and CR machines, pachinko parlors shunned them. They cost 20 - 30 percent more than conventional machines, and parlor owners complained, "Our profits aren't going to go up. We'll just be investing more on equipment." So, in the beginning, the new machines just didn't catch on. The "explosion" didn't come until 1993, five years after the PC companies had been established. In 1990, the combined revenue of LEC and GC was somewhere in the neighborhood of 300 million yen. By the time 1993 came along, though, they were pulling in 4 trillion yen.

Forecasts for FY1996 hint at a further increase, perhaps to more than 10 trillion yen.

Why did the new machines suddenly take hold? Here's the secret — the police played their trump card. As unbelievable as this may sound, they made the machines more speculative, thus making pachinko more like gambling. The police approved the "consecutive hit" feature for the CR machines. They indiscriminately bent the laws to serve their own purposes, i.e., to boost sales of CR machines with PC systems.

The criteria for official approval of pachinko machines are set by the National Public Safety Commission. In normal circumstances, the criteria would have to be uniform, and the intent behind them would be to discourage the speculative aspects of the game. Inspections are supervised by a special-status corporation affiliated with the National Police Agency, namely, the Hotsukyo [the Security and Telecommunications Technology Association], a.k.a. the "Police Retirement Home."

When the CR machines came out, the Hotsukyo initially insisted that the probability of a big hit be lower than with the old-style machines but, at the same time, they had a probability-adjustment feature installed in each CR machine. They *officially* approved the "consecutive win" feature for CR machines and only CR machines. Thereafter, pachinko fans jumped onto the CR bandwagon and its lures. Pachinko parlor owners fell over each other in the race to acquire CR machines. The police can't complain when someone says (in this case, an industry source), "The police made the CR machines more speculative to boost PC system sales."

Biggest Retirement Home for the Overseers of Law and Order

The relationship between the police and the pachinko industry has had many dramatic ups and downs. But its history might be divided into two stages: Phase I, when the police actually controlled the odds of winning at pachinko, and Phase II, which began when the police started using pachinko for their own purposes. Phase I peaked in 1959, the threshold of the high-growth era, when machines with the consecutive win feature were prohibited. The police outlawed them two years after they were introduced, claiming that "on those machines, the customer can lose a great deal of money at one game. Also, they encourage people to gamble." They also maintained strict control over cash awards. It was then that the pachinko industry entered the "Ice Age." At the height of Phase I, there were more than 45,000 pachinko parlors. When the Ice Age set in, only some 8,500 remained.

The turning point came in 1969, when the police lifted their ban on machines equipped with the consecutive win feature. In 1973, they approved electrically powered machines, and in 1980, the "Fever" machine. Why did the police authorities change their tune?

Once you know why they lifted the ban on the consecutive win feature, you have the key to the mystery. The pachinko industry's survival was at stake, so it launched a desperate retaliatory campaign. Its members appealed to a Diet representative and his power to influence the police. The Diet member was appointed adviser to a pachinko industry association, and then no-holds-barred lobbying ensued. When the police resisted lifting the ban on machines with the consecutive win feature, the Diet member steamrolled, "When you use the old-style machines, you have to touch the balls directly. You don't know who's had his hands on them. Do you think the police should be sanctioning such an unsanitary practice?"

The police acquiesced, which a former police official regrets, saying that "that concession is a blot on the history of pachinko control." But the industry made concessions, too, by forming an industry association that would eventually serve as a retirement home for former police officials.

Today, *amakudari* [literally, "descent from heaven." The term refers to former government bureaucrats who are appointed responsible positions in private companies, local government, etc.] from the police to the pachinko industry are "thoroughly entrenched," according to an industry source. Let's take a look at the *amakudari* situation at the Zennichi Yuren (Japan Federation of Amusement Business Associations), an association to which all pachinko parlors in Japan belong.

Actually, they belong to the association because they are required to. If they don't join, they can't do business. The organization is headed by pachinko parlor owners, but its administrative functions and, hence, the "real" authority are in the hands of its executive director, a retired police bureaucrat. The Zennichi Yuren is setting up branches in each prefecture. The position of executive director at the prefectural branches is reserved for former heads of the Crime Prevention Division of prefectural Police Headquarters (mostly noncareer [a term used to designate civil servants who have passed Level II and III civil service examinations, but not Level I. These people are rarely able to attain a rank higher than assistant manager, at least in the central bureaucracy] bureaucrats). Prefectural divisions of the Nichiyukyo, too, have established branches, which they call "units," one for every police station. Retired police officers account for 90 percent of

the units' Administrative Department heads. From the Zennichi Yuren to the Nichiyu Kyo units, most of the clerical positions are held by former police bureaucrats.

Other industry organizations, such as pachinko machine manufacturers' groups and *pachisuro* [a combination pachinko and slot machine] industry groups have been deluged by retired police. There are also many retired police bureaucrats serving as "advisors" to pachinko parlors.

Apparently without any qualms, others are retiring into the cash premium distribution aspect of the pachinko business, which they themselves consider it "not legal." Still others have invaded wholesalers in the premium industry, where they "serve" as presidents or in other top-ranking positions.

No Turning Back

It should now be obvious that the pachinko industry functions, and beautifully so, as a retirement home for former police bureaucrats and police officers. The imaginary line that divides the controllers (the police) from the controlled (the pachinko industry) has disappeared. Both sides now share the same interests. We can no longer expect fair administration. For instance, rumor has it that there are plans to lower the "pachinko age" (the signs now read "No One under 18 Admitted"), and that the police are heavily involved in those plans. The police are clearly breaking the rules.

Mitsui & Co. and Marubeni Corporation have decided to join Mitsubishi and Sumitomo in the PC system business. The two latecomers reportedly had Diet members act as intermediaries. There are also rumors circulating that another Diet member who has a lot of influence over the police is lobbying for a new PC system business plan, one that involves a leading manufacturer of household appliances and a railway company. The issue of awarding cash prizes has long been a bone stuck in the throat of the pachinko industry. But now a campaign headed by a Diet member formerly with the Ministry of Home Affairs, which has jurisdiction over the police, who is busily lobbying for special "pachinko legislation" which would legalize cash awards, has been launched. As one of our informants told us, "The authorities who once merely turned a blind eye to the huge profits the police were reaping from pachinko are now working actively to protect the interests of the police."

Do the police really intend to ignore the increase of tragic incidents that arise because of pachinko? Don't they feel even the slightest bit of shame at the possibility of being remembered, at some future time, as having been in the vanguard of the movement to turn Japan

into a Las Vegas, simply to snag post-retirement jobs for their own?

It's not all bad news, since we've heard that there are some members of police circles who are trying to put a brake on the more speculative aspects of pachinko. But that won't erase the bad name they've acquired. The ties that bind the police and the pachinko industry are so strong and so structurally ingrained that there is no turning back. The day will come when the public brands the police bureaucracy as "the cause of Japan's ruin." And soon.

North Korea

DPRK Ministry 'Examining' U.S. 4-Way Talks Proposal

SK1804103296 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1009 GMT 18 Apr 96

["Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Clinton's 'Proposal for Quadrilateral Talks'" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, asked by KCNA today about the "quadrilateral talks" proposed by U.S. President Clinton, said as follows:

U.S. President Clinton on April 16 "proposed" to hold "quadrilateral talks" among the North and South of Korea, the United States and China in order to "begin a peace process on the Korean Peninsula." His proposal has no more details.

As for the matter of preserving peace on the Korean Peninsula, it should be discussed and decided on by the DPRK and the United States, signatories to the Armistice Agreement.

We have no clear notion of why the U.S. side, which knows this fact better than anyone else, abruptly proposed "quadrilateral talks."

Now that the Korean Peninsula is in a situation strikingly similar to the state of war, it is urgently required that the outdated Armistice Agreement should be replaced by a peace agreement.

Proceeding from this stark reality, we have long since proposed it as a major issue to conclude a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States.

We are not yet certain whether the "proposal for quadrilateral talks" is aimed at concluding a genuine peace agreement between the signatories to the Korean Armistice Agreement.

As is known to all, the North and the South of Korea have already agreed on nonaggression, reconciliation and cooperation and a document on the agreement has been published all over the world.

The point at issue is that the document has not been carried into practice. It is entirely because the North-South dialogue has been suspended due to the South Korean authorities.

We are not certain, either, whether the "proposal for quadrilateral talks" is related to this issue.

We are now examining the proposal of the U.S. side to see whether it seeks another purpose and whether it is feasible.

At this moment, we can comment no more.

DPRK: U.S.-Japan-ROK 'Military Alliance' Denounced

*SK1804025196 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
0752 GMT 11 Apr 96*

[Unattributed talk: "Maneuvers for Tripartite Military Alliance by the United States, Japan, and South Korean Puppets"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The maneuvers of the United States, Japan, and South Korean puppets to block the flow of independence in Asia by making a military collusion among them have become more unscrupulous with each passing day. This is proven by the fact that the United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets have recently rushed toward the road of further strengthening a tripartite military alliance system under the pretext of coping with what they call threat and instability.

The United States and Japan are attempting to continuously maintain and strengthen their security system. Before a U.S. House hearing, Nye, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, made clear the U.S. stance of continuously maintaining the U.S.-Japan security alliance, stating that U.S.-Japan security is a vital point for stability in the Asian-Pacific region.

Besides this, U.S. and Japanese military authorities held frequent meetings. At these meetings, in talking about rebuilding the U.S.-Japan security alliance relations, they depicted the U.S.-Japan security alliance relations as those of a couple who married a long time ago and who never thinks of a divorce.

On the other hand, the United States is strengthening the relations of a subordinate military alliance with the stooge with the aim of holding on to South Korea as a strong point for its new East Asian strategy and

of driving the puppet army into a shock brigade for aggression and war. Clear examples of this are the so-called convention of an annual security consultative meeting and the strengthening of military support for close military cooperation.

What draws our attention in particular is that the military collusion between Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets is being strengthened. Bosses of the Japanese military circles made unusual trips to South Korea and held secret meetings to expand military exchange and cooperation. In the meetings they have established a regular consultative system to exchange military intelligence. This is an already known fact.

In recent years, even mutual visits of naval fleets and joint aerial exercises were conducted between Japan and South Korea for the first time after the war [World War II]. This is a dangerous move in the maneuvers for a tripartite military alliance among the United States, Japan, and South Korea. The maneuvers for tripartite military alliance among the United States, Japan, and South Korea are a product of the U.S. strategies toward the DPRK based on force, that is, its antisocialist strategy and aggressive military bloc policy.

Along with NATO, the United States mapped out a plan for tripartite military alliance with the United States as an axis and has actively pushed ahead with this plan with the aim to form a military bloc for aggression in Asia with Japanese militarist forces and the South Korean puppets, to check and bring under its control our Republic and other independent countries by forming encircling nets in the direction of the West and the East, and finally to establish U.S.-style domination systems in these regions.

The United States not only has tightly fastened Japan and South Korea to its iron chain, but has also forced Japan and South Korea to establish relations of military collusion between them. In other words, now that relations of a subordinate military alliance have been formed in the two sides of a triangle, that is, between the United States and Japan and between the United States and South Korea—once one side of the triangle called Japan and South Korea is connected—a tripartite military alliance can be formed. In this way, a military collusion has been pushed ahead between Japan and the South Korean puppets according to the U.S. demand and manipulation in the Cold War era.

The United States formed a de facto tripartite military alliance system with Japan and South Korea in the eighties by closely connecting the South Korea-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty and the South Korea-Japan Treaty with the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty as an axis.

The tripartite military alliance is a legacy of the Cold War era and is for aggression and war. Therefore, strengthening the tripartite military alliance means returning to the Cold War era. Under such a situation, detente and peace on the Korean peninsula and security of the East Asian region cannot be expected.

The issues of an emergency situation, security, and the like that the United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets are talking about are a deceitful camouflage designed to justify the maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance. The maneuvers for the U.S.-Japan-South Korea tripartite military alliance cannot be justified. These maneuvers will only further deteriorate the DPRK-U.S. relations into hostilities [chomi kyojon kwangye], cast a dark shade on the issue of normalizing DPRK-Japan relations, and build the barrier of North-South dialogue higher.

The maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance have presented the requirement and necessity for the Republic to further concentrate greater efforts on strengthening its self-defensive national defense capability to guarantee its sovereignty and security.

As long as the maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance against our Republic continue, it will be inevitable to strengthen our national defense capability. Peace and policy by force are incompatible.

If the United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets continue to cling to the maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance, the process of detente can be reversed into the Cold War, the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework will have a crack in its implementation, and peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia will be seriously in danger.

The United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets should bear the total responsibility for an eventual complicated situation created due to the maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance against us.

The United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets should renounce to the old confrontation conception and should immediately stop the maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance for aggression.

DPRK Envoy to Thailand Reacts to Talks Proposal From U.S., ROK

*OW1804082896 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 18 Apr Morning Edition p 7*

[By Masaharu Shimokawa]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bangkok, 17 Apr — Yi Sam-no, DPRK (North Korean) ambassador to Thailand, gave an exclusive interview to MAINICHI SHIMBUN on

17 April, in which he commented on the "quadrilateral meeting" for the conclusion of a peace agreement on the Korean peninsula, which was proposed by the presidents of the United States and the ROK on 16 April.

He reiterated the DPRK's position so far that "the conclusion of a peace agreement is an issue to be discussed with the United States," but said that "we are ready to discuss with the United States at a preparatory meeting the participation of South Korea (ROK) as an observer" at the consultations for an interim agreement.

The North Korean Foreign Ministry has not come up with any official comment on the new proposal by the United States and the ROK. Yi's statement is a significant indication of North Korea's forthcoming response to the proposal.

Yi is the chief of the DPRK mission to the Japan-DPRK normalization negotiations. He is a powerful diplomat and was once ambassador to Indonesia. The interview took place at the request of the ambassador.

At the interview, Yi said that the U.S. and ROK presidents' proposal for a "quadrilateral meeting" is "worthy of serious study." He reemphasized North Korea's standard position that "talks to replace the armistice with a peace agreement should be undertaken by the parties actually involved, the United States and North Korea."

He also said: "The intervention of outside forces was the root cause of the tragedy on the Korean peninsula, and such intervention will also make a solution more difficult in the future." He indicated his opposition to the proposal by the United States and the ROK to invite China to participate in the meeting.

Yi asserted that "the armistice agreement exists only in form and not in reality," and stressed that "it will be realistic for North Korea and the United States to conclude an interim agreement prior to the conclusion of a peace agreement."

With regard to the ROK's participation, Yi said: "We are not ignoring them." He indicated a readiness to consider South Korea's participation as an observer. He also stated: "There is a joint military committee between North and South Korea as a result of the mutual nonaggression agreement. After the conclusion of a peace agreement with the United States gets onto the right track, the joint military committee will automatically enter the operational stage."

DPRK: 'U.S. Military Conservatives' Urged To Stop Threat Claims

*SK1804041396 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0400 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[“U.S. Military Conservatives Warned Not To Violate DPRK’s Right To Self-Defence” — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — U.S. military conservatives, talking about the DPRK’s “development and deployment of missiles”, claimed that it is posing “direct threats” to someone.

Commenting on this, a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN today urges them to stop infringing upon the DPRK’s right to self-defence and put an end to the reckless anti-DPRK military action.

As for the issue of our missiles, it accords with the self-defensive policy, the analyst says, and continues:

To increase the self-protecting defence capabilities is a serious issue urgently required by the present situation of the Korean peninsula.

The outbreak of a new Korean war by the United States and the South Korean puppets is actually drawing nearer moment by moment.

It is very legitimate that we should adopt self-defensive measures to cope with the phase of war, a threat to national security and socialism, our life and soul.

With nothing can the U.S. bellicose forces justify their moves to shift the responsibility onto the DPRK, the victims, while deploying new types of nuclear weapons and missiles in and around South Korea and seriously threatening the DPRK.

We never like or pardon any argument about the issue of our sovereignty.

DPRK Daily’s Commentary Denounces ROK ‘Civil Defense Exercise’

*SK1704140896 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean
0853 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[Commentary from 17 April NODONG SINMUN: “Fit of War Hysterics”]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 15 April, the puppets held a large military training exercise, called a civil defense exercise [taegyumo minbangwiui nal hullyoniranungot], in major cities throughout South Korea, including Seoul. The warmongers said the exercise was aimed at examining the civilian defense capacity in connection with so-called recent moves by North Korea.

Even fighters such as F-6’s and F-5’s were mobilized in the exercise, which was reportedly intensely conducted in an environment of real three-dimensional war. The South Korean puppets have frequently conducted the so-called civil defense exercise [minbangwi hullyon] under the pretext of defense. However, this is first time they have conducted it in all major cities in a three-dimensional manner, even mobilizing fighters.

The situation indicates a graveness that cannot be overlooked [sataenun kangwahalsu omnun omjungsongul ttigoitta]. We cannot remain onlookers to the fact that the warmongers are continuously engaged in a war exercise for northward invasion under the ruse of the fictitious military threat from the North, talking about a civil defense capacity and the like.

The measures we have taken to cope with the situation, where the state of the DMZ can no longer be maintained, were self-defensive measures to deter and smash the adventurous new war provocation maneuvers by the Kim Yong-sam ring and to protect our supreme interests; they are not any sort of threat to South Korea [choegun pimujang chidaewi chiwirul toisang yujihalsu opkedoen sataee taechohayo uriga chwihan chochidurun Kim Yong-sam iltangui mohomjogin saejonjaeng tobal chaektongul miyone choji punswachago uriui choego iigul chikigiwihan chawijok chochiroso namjosone taehan kuotton wihyoburodo toejj annunda].

As shown by our efforts to make this year a year of peace and national unity, and by our sincere efforts to fix a durable peace on the Korean peninsula, there has been no change in our peace-loving position. Spreading rumors about the threat from the North, the Kim Yong-sam ring conducted a civil defense exercise [minbangwi hullyon] to stir up the people’s hostilities against us, to ignite the fuse of war against the North, and to use them as cannon fodder in a war.

In fact, the traitor Kim Yong-sam is displaying war fever, mentioning on every occasion a possible provocation by the North and the establishment of a readiness posture. Military leaders, including the national defense minister, have visited frontline units in succession, egging on a war mood for northward invasion. The entire puppet armed forces have assumed a war-readiness posture.

Under this situation, the Kim Yong-sam ring frenziedly conducted a war exercise for northward invasion by mobilizing urbanites and fighters, covering the entire South Korean territory with the smell of gunpowder. This indicates the bellicose Kim Yong-sam group has already cocked the launching mechanism for northward invasion [igosun Kim Yong-sam hojonjiptani imi pukchim kyokpalgirul tanggin sangtae ittanungosul poyojunda].

To adhere to war commotions while spreading slanderous rumors about the threat from the North is a stereotypical means used by those who face a power crisis. The Kim Yong-sam ring is throwing a fit of war hysteria [chonjaeng histerijok palchak] in a desperate situation. The puppets have turned the DMZ into an attack position and have staged provocative military maneuvers against us in areas near the Military Demarcation Line. Unsatisfied with this, they prepare the residents in the rear as cannon fodder; they are extremely mad about war.

The puppets' war maneuvers are indeed frenetic because it is aimed by those who failed in the recent elections of the puppet lawmakers to shift the people's hatred from them to something else, evading the responsibility for their criminal acts of creating a war crisis to the breaking point on the Korean peninsula.

A tiger moth dies in the flames. Although Kim Yong-sam is trying to find a way out of the ruinous crisis in war provocations for a northward invasion, this is nothing but an act of suicide that will hasten their ultimate ruin.

DPRK: Foreign Ministry Reviews Russian Delegation's Visit

*SK1804105796 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1004 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[“Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Russian Government Delegation's Visit to Korea” — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea mentioned the recent Korea visit of the Russian Government delegation in an interview with KCNA today.

He told KCNA:

As already reported, the first meeting of the DPRK-Russian Intergovernmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology was successfully held in Pyongyang from April 10 to 12.

The meeting focused on further expanding and developing bilateral relations of economic cooperation. In the wake of the first meeting, a protocol on developing exchange and cooperation in trade, light industry, forestry, mining industry, science, technology and other fields was signed.

During the visit of the delegation, vice foreign ministers of the two countries held political negotiations. At the negotiation, the sides confirmed each other's willingness to expand and develop the DPRK-Russian relations on a fresh basis and had sincere discussions on the

practical ways. They exchanged views on the matters of relaxing the tensions and establishing a peace-keeping mechanism on the Korean Peninsula. The DPRK side informed the Russian side of the cause of the aggravation of tensions on this peninsula and the principled position to relax the tensions, while the Russian side paid attention to it.

The recent Korea visit of the Russian Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Ignatenko was an important occasion in promoting bilateral understanding and expanding and developing bilateral relations in various fields.

DPRK: SKNDF Official Issues Statement Marking 1960 'Uprising'

*SK1804044096 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0350 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[“Statement by Chief of Pyongyang Mission of NDFSK” — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — Yi Chong-sang, chief of the Pyongyang mission of the National Democratic Front of South Korea (NDFSK) [SKNDF], made public a press statement on April 17 on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the April popular uprising in South Korea in 1960.

The April popular resistance, which began with the struggle of Masan citizens against the March 15 fraudulent “election” in the spring of 1960, was an eruption of grudge and resentment of the people against the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and an anti-U.S., anti-fascist resistance of millions of people for national salvation, Yi Chong-sang said, stressing that the resistants attacked the stronghold of fascism despite indiscriminate suppression by the oppressors and toppled the Syngman Rhee puppet regime.

He continued:

To establish the sovereignty of the nation in the South and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country is the desire of the April 19 popular resistants and, at the same time, the unanimous demand and will of the whole nation.

We, the NDFSK, and the people from all walks of life in the South will kindle the second April 19 torch to overthrow the corrupt politics of the South, topple the regime of Kim Yong-sam, the kingpin of irregularities, the ringleader of fascism and a cancer of reunification, and realise the desire of the martyrs without fail.

DPRK: WPK Delegation Returns Home From Visit to Cambodia, Others

*SK1804052796 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
1300 GMT 14 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] On 14 April, a delegation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] led by Hyon Chun-kuk, director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, returned home by train after winding up its visit to Cambodia, Malaysia, Laos, and Thailand.

The delegation was welcomed at the Pyongyang Station by Kim Yang-kon, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; and Keo Sokha, Cambodian charge d'affaires ad interim in our country.

DPRK: Photo Exhibit, Film Show Mark Battle at Cuba's Bay of Pigs

*SK1804043996 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0346 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — A photo exhibition and film show took place at the Chollima House of Culture on Wednesday to mark the 35th anniversary of the victory of the Playa Giron [Bay of Pigs] Battle of the Cuban people.

Officials of the Cuban Embassy here were present on invitation.

Present there were Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the State Education Commission and chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee; Yi Chin-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, and Yang Tal-chu, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, who are also vice-chairmen of the Solidarity Committee; other officials concerned and working people in the city.

The participants looked round the exhibited pictures and saw a Cuban feature film.

DPRK: Kim Il-song's 'Famous Work' Published Abroad

*SK1804043696 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0340 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA) — "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country", a famous work of the great leader President Kim Il-song, was published in booklet by the Central Committee of the Lazaro Cardenas Front Party for National Reconstruction of Mexico on the occasion of his birth anniversary.

The booklet prints a photograph of President Kim Il-song and the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il discussing state affairs.

The booklet in the preface says:

On the occasion of the 84th birth anniversary of His Excellency President Kim Il-song, we publish the work "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" made public by him on April 6, 1993.

We hope that the Korean people will achieve the reunification of the country at an early date by means of founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo under the wise leadership of His Excellency the great leader Kim Chong-il.

The work was also brought out in booklet by the Panjob Publishing House of Thailand.

DPRK: NODONG SINMUN Observes Kim Il-song's Birthday

*SK1604132896 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
0000 GMT 15 Apr 96*

[NODONG SINMUN 15 April editorial: "Our Party and People Will Carry Forward Tradition of Certain Victory to the End"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Korean revolution is a glorious revolution which traversed an ever-victorious road. Today, our party and people are brilliantly succeeding the history of victory, which was created by the great leader [widaehan suryong].

At a time when the entire party, the entire Army, and all of the people are vigorously advancing toward a new victory in the revolution by firmly uniting around the party, we are significantly welcoming the historic anniversary of the respected and beloved leader [kyongachanun suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song's birthday.

The great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song is the symbol of certain victory.

The respected and beloved [kyongachanun] Comrade Kim Il-song's sacred trace is engraved on the victorious, glorious road which the Korean revolution has traversed, and the leader's [suryongnim] whole life is filled with the great feats achieved by our party and people.

The great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song's history of certain victory is continuously running through the grand advance road of our party and people, on which we are moving forward by highly holding the red flag. Today when our revolution confronts heavy tasks, all the party members, officers and men of the

People's Army, and people are all the more deeply engraving in their hearts the historic importance of the significant April, which began the victory of the Korean revolution.

The birthday of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song, 15 April, is a historic day in which the eternal sun of chuche came up. This day is being brilliantly engraved as the birthday of an eternal peerless great man due to his great ideology and immortal achievements in the eternal history of our nation and the struggle history of man's liberation.

Because of the respected and beloved leader's [kyongae-hanun suryongnim] birthday, our people came to have an eternal pillar of faith and an endlessly bright future was unfolded in the future road of man who creates an independent new world.

The birthday of the great leader [widaehan suryongnim] was the greatest festive day of the nation when socialist Korea began, and was a historic event which brought about a fundamental turning point in man's history of the 20th century.

The prosperity of the descendants of the Kim Il-song nation generation after generation, the ultimate victory in the chuche cause, and man's brilliant future are linked to 15 April. Our people and the progressive mankind will celebrate generation after generation 15 April as a significant historic anniversary in which the great leader [widaehan suryong], the sage of the great revolution, was welcomed for the first time in thousands years of history.

At this time, our people are celebrating 15 April without upholding the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song, but our revolutionary faith of continuing to vigorously fight according to the victorious road as taught by the leader [suryongnim] is being all the more consolidated into a firm one.

Today, Comrade Kim Chong-il, an ever-victorious iron-willed commander, stands at the head of the Korean revolution. For us, the respected and beloved [kyongae-hanun] Comrade Kim Chong-il is the supreme commander of our revolution, which is being succeeded generation after generation.

Because Comrade Kim Chong-il exists, the fatherly leader's [oboi suryongnim] glorious and brilliant history is being endlessly elucidated. Adhering to and elucidating the ever-victorious tradition of the Korean revolution by highly upholding the respected and beloved [kyongae-hanun] Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership is a firm pledge being consolidated by all the party members, officers and men of the People's Army, and people who welcome the significant 15 April.

The revolutionary life of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song is a glory-filled history embroidered with certain victory.

The great leader [widaehan yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: For almost 70 years, our leader [suryongnim] led the revolution and construction toward the one road of victory without making even one mistake or deviating from the line.

Certain victory is our revolution's eternal goal. Revolution means becoming victorious by overcoming any storms. The ever-victorious revolutionary history of struggle is created only through the great leader [widaehan suryong]. The leader [suryong] is the supreme brain [choego noesu] of the revolution and center of the leadership. The leader's [suryong] greatness lies in embroidering the whole course of revolutionary activities toward victory.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song is the working class' outstanding leader who has glorified the whole history of the revolutionary struggle as the greatest victory and exploits. The cause to which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song devoted during his whole life is the most just and sacred cause to achieve the popular masses' independence. This cause extensively embodies the demands of the times and the aspirations of the popular masses and represents the future of mankind.

The leader's [suryongnim] cause was victorious in the past and is victorious today because of its correctness and lofty nature and the greatness of its achievements. Our revolution was an arduous revolution even when it was in the making.

During his whole life from his embarkment on the road of the revolution to the last moment of his life, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song achieved only victory without the slightest degree of mistake or deviation. This immortal history was the history of an excellent ideologist, theorist, and strategist who elucidated the future of victory of the revolution with his farsighted wisdom and the history of an iron-willed commander who bravely fought difficulties with matchless courage and will. It was also the history of a great leader [yongdoja] who created immortal exploits by firmly uniting with the people.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song's ideology was a banner of victory; his mettle was an invincible mettle which was always victorious; and his leadership was the revolutionary leadership which turned misfortune into fortune and adversity into prosperity.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song lives eternally together with the times and the revolution as the highest incarnation of victory because he created the unprecedentedly glorious and brilliant history.

The history of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary struggle is the history of a legendary hero who won victory after victory in the confrontation with imperialism.

The victory in the revolution is achieved in the bloody struggle against the imperialists and the class enemies. A victory without struggle does not exist. The principle of victory is that one can achieve victory only when one fights against the enemies at all costs.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song started the revolution in the site of the bloody battle against the imperialists and spent his whole life in the struggle against the imperialists. The legendary hero who declared an all-out war against the imperialists in his teens, who smashed the Japanese imperialists—who attempted to make their country a leading power in Asia—in his thirties, and who defeated the U.S. imperialists—who claimed that they were most powerful in the world—in his forties are none other than our leader [suryongnim].

The great victory which defeated two powerful imperialist enemies was the military miracle that could be achieved only by the respected and beloved leader [suryongnim] who possessed thorough anti-imperialist spirit, bold mettle, and crafty strategy [chiryak].

The leader [suryongnim] began to live up to his name as the ever-victorious iron-willed commander and our people were called the people of heroic Korea, because he was always victorious in the wars against the imperialists.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song defended the revolution amid the endless confrontation with the imperialists. Our country has been the outpost of class struggle where the revolutionary forces and the counterrevolutionary forces confront with each other most acutely. The division of the land was forced by outside forces—the imperialists' constant maneuvers for destruction and sabotage, the rapidly changing international situation, the collapse of socialism in many countries, and the intensified anti-Republic maneuvers by the imperialists in the wake of the collapse of socialism. Under these circumstances, the great leader [suryongnim] firmly defended the position of our revolution for 50 years.

The great leader's uncompromising attitude toward imperialism, his resolute character of principle against imperialism, and his excellent revolutionary leadership were the basic source which made it possible to firmly

defend socialism of our own style by smashing the enemies' military aggression, economic blockade, and ideological and cultural infiltration.

The history of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's protracted struggle against imperialism shows that neither compromise with the imperialists nor concession to them should be allowed even to the slightest degree and that victory can be won only when we bravely fight against them. We should be always firm and resolute before the enemies and should defend to the end the dignity as the communist revolutionaries.

When the imperialists trigger provocations, wielding knives, we should sternly smash them with the revolutionary armed forces, and when the enemies employ appeasement tactics, we should struggle against them with a revolutionary character of principle. This is precisely the principle of the revolution that the great leader [suryongnim] handed over to us. As long as imperialism exists in this world and as long as the class struggle continues in this world, this truth will have eternal validity.

The history of the revolutionary struggle of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song is the history of an extraordinary socialist political leader, who led creation and construction to a single ever-victorious road. The socialist construction is as arduous as the bloody war of revolution. Revolution means achieving victory in both the struggle against the enemy and the struggle to reform nature and society.

The people and the party engaging in the revolution must build socialism with the same spirit that they had in fighting the imperialist enemies. Throughout his life, the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song led the socialist construction with the same revolutionary spirit he had when he defeated the Japanese imperialists in the jungle of Paektu.

After the liberation of the fatherland, it was great Comrade Kim Il-song who pioneered the way toward the untrodden road of building a new society, and it was our leader [suryongnim] who overcame arduous difficulties in the post-war reconstruction and who effected the great upsurge of Chollima. The miracle of Korea, which stood up on the land that was destroyed into wasteland twice, was an epic of the socialist construction. The epic can only be written by the great leader [widaehan suryongnim], who had the iron faith that as long as there exists the party, the people, and the land, a prosperous fatherland can be built without fail.

Owing to the history of the creation of heaven and earth, the great leader [widaehan suryongnim] is highly praised as a genius of creation and construction who

does not know anything impossible. The great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song energetically led our people's struggle to build socialism in the forefront until the last moment of his revolutionary life. Others may abandon socialism, but the leader's [suryongnim] will to safeguard the banner of the revolution and socialism to the end never changed.

The noble trait of the great leader [widaehan suryongnim], who continued giving on-the-spot guidances without a moment of rest at the age of over 80, was an immortal banner that encouraged and pushed our people to new struggles and feats. In the great hand of his leadership, many great monumental creations were built, making our fatherland shine as an indomitable fortress of socialism.

The long revolution history of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song was the history of the red flag. Not knowing defeatism, and marching and struggling on and on without a single step backward to achieve the ultimate victory is the ideology of the red flag, a valuable legacy left to us by the great leader [widaehan suryongnim].

When we fight on with the ideology of the red flag, we can create something from nothing, overcome any storm, and vigorously advance with the faith and optimism in certain victory. The red flag ideology of the great leader [widaehan suryongnim] lives today and will live tomorrow and forever.

The history of the revolutionary struggle of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song is a history of an extraordinary leader [suryong], who provided all the foundations for our revolution to become ever-victorious. The history of victory should unceasingly continue in the revolutionary struggle. The greatness and farsightedness of the leader [suryong] are proven when he provides the basis not only for the current generation but also for the future of the revolution to achieve victory forever.

The great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song provided an eternal foundation for the ultimate victory of the chuche revolutionary cause with his brilliant farsightedness. Thank to the leader's [suryongnim] energetic leadership, we now have an ever-victorious party, an invincible Army, and a mighty government. The blood line of chuche, which is the eternal lifeline of our revolution, the single-hearted unity, which is the basis of the revolution, and the strong self-reliant economy were all achievements of the leader [suryong].

Before the weighty task of the revolution and the struggle that becomes more difficult, we feel in our hearts how valuable the lifetime achievements of the leader

[suryongnim] are to the future of our revolution. The life of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song was a life of struggle to glorify today as well as tomorrow. Through the life of the leader [suryongnim], we learn the truth that only those revolutionaries who boundlessly love and push forward the future can create an ever-victorious history.

On the sacred road of the revolution, the leader [suryongnim] suffered all sorts of hardship as a revolutionist and as a human being. The great leader taught us a revolutionary view of life, that is, even though we cannot enjoy the fruit in our generation, we should gladly accept any suffering and devote everything to the future and to the happiness of the generations to come. Living and fighting with this view of life makes life valuable for our chuche-type revolutionaries, and the view indicates the road toward the victory of the chuche revolutionary cause.

The history of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's invincibility is being brilliantly inherited by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il today. The inheritance of invincibility is precisely the inheritance of leadership.

The leader [yongdoja] of the revolution is the successor, the supreme brain who leads the revolution according to the leader's [suryong] ideology and will. When we uphold the great leader [yongdoja], only then can the history of victory created by the leader [suryong] radiate its brilliance and be carried on for generation after generation.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il is the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and revolution who is infinitely adding luster to the history of the great leader's [suryongnim] glorious invincibility. The 30-odd-year history of the great Comrade Kim Chong-il is a history that has created an ever-victorious record along with the respected and beloved leader [suryongnim]. Reflected in the history of the great leader's [suryongnim] glorious revolutionary struggle are the traces of the immortal leadership of the respected and beloved general.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il has led the revolution and construction with the courage and will of Mt. Paektu, doing so in the style of great Comrade Kim Il-song. Comrade Kim Chong-il's faith and will are the faith and will in certain victory; Comrade Kim Chong-il's strategy [chiryak] and wisdom [yeji] are the legendary wisdom that brings about only victory. Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership art is an extraordinary leadership ability that can occupy any position by whipping up the entire party, all the people, and the entire Army. Because of this, Comrade Kim

Chong-il is highly praised as a great leader and a matchless general.

Today, a time when the leader's [suryongnim] history invariably flows through the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il, is an era of glory in which the tradition of invincibility is being extensively inherited and in which a greater victory is unfolding.

It is the firm determination of the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il to eternally add luster to the history of the invincibility of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. Today, the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il is at the forefront, leading the sacred struggle to defend the precious gains of the revolution provided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The recent inspections by the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il of outposts that confront the enemy is a demonstration of his firm and invariable determination and will to firmly defend our system and our revolution at any cost. With Comrade Kim Chong-il's historic inspections of the frontline, the militant morale of officers and men of the People's Army has been enhanced a hundredfold, and our people are filled to overflowing with faith in and optimism toward victory.

Thanks to the tradition of the great leader's [suryongnim] invincibility and to his wise leadership, our people are demonstrating their pride as the most revolutionary people who know only victory. Our people are the most mighty and dignified people who live and fight in the independent spirit of the great leader [widaehan suryong], the great leader [widaehan yongdoja].

The spirit of independence is the prime mover for victory in the revolution. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song led our people so that they sanely carried out the revolution. He fostered our people into a people who have been free from enslavement and servility, and who have strong independence. Herein lie the respected and beloved leader's [suryongnim] greatest achievement.

The spirit of independence implanted by the great leader [suryongnim] and fostered by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il has become the noble soul of our people today. Our people's spirit of independence is the absolute belief that their leader [suryong] and their party are the best. It is also the firm will to pioneer their destinies with their own strength.

Our people are a people who never rely on others, however difficult a situation they may be in. They are also not a people who beg for help from others. They make no concession to the nation's sovereignty, even in the slightest degree and under any circumstances. This is our people's firm faith. For our people, independence

is the philosophy of eternal victory. As in the past, when they were ever-victorious with the spirit of independence, then also in the future, our people will be always victorious with the spirit of independence.

Our people are a strong-willed, revolutionary people who bravely fight all difficulties with the faith and courage of the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja]. Victory in the revolution is the victory of faith and the victory of will. The days of traversing the long road of the revolution under the leadership of the great leader [suryongnim] were a course in which our people internalized the leader's [suryongnim] courage and faith as they were.

The leader's [suryongnim] aggressive spirit of bravely fighting difficulties has become our people's inherent spirit of struggle; his unshakable optimism has been deepened as our people's militant mettle.

Today, our people demonstrate their glory as an indomitable people with a thorough faith and strong revolutionary spirit. Let us see who will be the one who smiles last. It is our people's ethos to struggle, taking this philosophy of faith as their motto.

It is precisely our people who struggle, holding high the red flag whenever the imperialists' maneuvers to pressure and blockade us are further intensified. It is our people who more staunchly advance with overflowing faith, singing the songs of struggle whenever they face multilayered difficulties and barriers.

The spirit of the arduous march, which prevails throughout the country, is the noble revolutionary spirit that can be displayed only by our people who are fighting with the courage and will possessed by the great leader [suryongnim], and who are victorious with the bold courage implanted by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Our people's faith and will are firmer than iron and mightier than nuclear weapons. There is no one in this world who can match one who is resolved to die. As long as there are such people who struggle with such a do-or-die determination, then the history of our revolution will forever be embroidered with victories.

Our people are an invincible people who are advancing victoriously with the tradition of unity created by the great leader [suryongnim]. It is the truth of the revolution that if we unite under the red flag, we will achieve victory, and that if we are divided, we will be ruined.

The history of the great leader's [suryongnim] invincibility is precisely the history of unity. Smashing the imperialists' maneuvers with the might of unity, and

pushing ahead with socialist construction with the strategy of unity, was the consistent principle that the leader adhered to during his entire life. Today, our people are vigorously advancing, firmly united around the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il just as they were firmly united around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the past.

Our unity is the pure unity of sharing ideology, faith, destiny, and the future with Comrade Kim Chong-il. It is also a mighty unity that is never shaken before any powerful enemy.

The imperialists tremble with fear before our invincible single-hearted unity, and the people who are carrying out the revolution are gaining great faith. Single-hearted unity is the banner of our eternal victory.

The philosophy of our invincibility is the philosophy of single-hearted unity. Our people will staunchly fight for the final victory of our revolution by firmly grasping the tradition of unity which was provided by the great leader [suryongnim] and which is being inherited and developed by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It is the great pride of our party and people to have the history of invincibility created by the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja]. This glorious history contains the noble sacrifice of fallen revolutionary fighters as well as their precious blood and sweat. The history of invincibility is the eternal tradition of the Korean revolution that our senior revolutionaries handed over to us and that our generation should hand over again to future generations.

We should further demonstrate our dignity and honor as an ever-victorious people on the road of carrying out the revolution under the leadership of the great Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Today, we are faced with the heavy but sacred task to infinitely and eternally add luster to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary achievements and to consummate his cause to the end.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: We should defend and further add luster to the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style which was provided by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and should thus consummate the socialist cause of chuche to the end.

The internal and external situation of our revolution is more tense than ever, and we face an arduous struggle. The imperialists' challenges have become more vicious. However, the final victory of the revolution lies in our

party and people who have a tradition and mettle of invincibility.

Because the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song lives eternally as the sun of chuche, and because there is the great party which brilliantly inherits the leader's [suryongnim] ideology and achievements, we will always be victorious.

We should more firmly unite around the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il and vigorously accelerate the march to consummate the respected and beloved leader's [suryongnim] revolutionary cause to the end.

Carrying out everything in the style of the great Comrade Kim Il-song is a basic guarantee for adding luster to our revolution's history of invincibility. Our people are eternal fighters and eternal disciples of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Our people are a dignified people who have learned the philosophy of the revolution and have experienced the secret of victory amid the great leader's [suryongnim] bosom. It is the lofty revolutionary obligation of our people to uphold the fatherly leader [suryongnim] as the eternal teacher and to carry out the revolution as taught by the leader [suryongnim].

Let us do everything in the style of the great Comrade Kim Il-song il. This is precisely the slogan of struggle that our people should eternally hold aloft. Carrying out everything in the style of the great Comrade Kim Il-song means to fight in conformity with the leader's [suryongnim] ideology, strategies, tactics, and leadership method. It also means to work in conformity with the model demonstrated by him when he was alive.

We should push ahead with party building, army building, government building, and economic and cultural building in conformity with the way taught by the leader [suryongnim] while he was alive.

All party members and working people should emulate the model demonstrated by the respected and beloved leader [suryongnim] in the course of the revolution and construction. All sectors and units should take the great leader's [suryongnim] behest as their eternal lifeline and implement it to the end.

Resolutely defending the nerve-center of the revolution is a most important task to achieving victory in the chuche revolutionary cause. The nerve-center of the revolution is the heart of the revolution that maps out, organizes, and achieves victory. Victory can be won only in the struggle to resolutely defend the supreme commander of the revolution. The history of the glorious victory of the Korean revolution is not

only the history of the great leader's [suryongnim] wise leadership, but is also the history of loyalty of the late revolutionary fighters who resolutely defended the leader [suryongnim].

The Korean communists resolutely defended the leader politically, ideologically, and with their lives, with a firm faith that their destinies and the victory of the revolution would exist only when the leader is with them.

The spirit of the Korean communists in defending the leader [suryong] is the spirit of human bombs that block the enemy's bombs with their own bodies to defend the safety of their headquarters. It is also the indomitable fighting spirit that does not make any concessions to matters related to the leader's [suryongnim] authority. It is a spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality that stops at nothing to implement the leader's plans and intent.

The spirit of defending the leader is the great revolutionary spirit that enables the Korean revolution to firmly defend its lifeline. It is also the eternal lifeline which the revolutionaries of the chuche type should cherish deep in their hearts for eternity.

Today, when imperialists and class enemies are viciously running wild, we should display the spirit of resolutely defending the leader higher than ever before. For our people, resolutely defending the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il is the most sacred and honorable struggle of defending our revolution and our people's destiny and future.

Let us resolutely defend the nerve-center of the revolution headed by the great Comrade Kim Chong-il. This is a slogan for our eternal victory.

We should see to it that the spirit of the members of the 7th Regiment of O Chung-op, who defended the headquarters of the revolution in the forests of Paektu with their lives, prevails throughout the entire party, the entire Army, and the entire country.

All party members, officers and men of the People's Army, and people should entrust their destinies to Comrade Kim Chong-il, trusting him as their pillar of faith. Thus, they should loyally uphold Comrade Kim Chong-il's ideology and leadership.

We should become fierce animals and vanguard fighters in defending Comrade Kim Chong-il's lofty authority. Ten million people should become rifles and bombs to resolutely defend the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il. Herein lies the firm guarantee for the eternal victory of our revolution.

Resolutely defending and adding luster to the glorious tradition of the revolution provided by the great leader [suryongnim] is the sacred struggle for the final consummation of the chuche cause.

The attitude toward the leader [suryong] and his cause finds expression in defending the leader's [suryong] revolutionary cause. History shows that if we disrupt the revolutionary tradition, we will lose everything.

Our revolutionary tradition is a noble revolutionary asset created by our sacred and ever-victorious struggle. Reflected in this are the entire life of the great leader [suryongnim] and the basic key to all victories. We should firmly defend and add luster to the revolutionary tradition provided by the great leader.

All party members, officers and men of the People's Army, and people should bravely overcome all difficulties and obstacles with the spirit of the arduous march that was created in the thick forests of Mt. Paektu. The struggle to defend and add luster to the revolutionary tradition is the struggle to firmly protect the revolutionary assets prepared by the great leader [suryongnim]. We should strengthen and develop the glorious WPK into the party of the great Comrade Kim Il-song, make the invincible revolutionary armed forces the army of the leader [suryong] and of the party forever, and construct our socialist fatherland as a great country that shines along with the esteemed name of Comrade Kim Il-song.

The imperialists and challengers to the revolution are now viciously maneuvering to destroy the valuable assets of our revolution. We should smash every aggressive maneuver by the enemy with resolute revolutionary principles and burning enmity, and should firmly protect our system and our fatherland. All People's Army officers and men should impregably protect our land, sky, and sea, upholding the guns and spears of justice with an attitude worthy of the revolutionary army that has succeeded to the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition.

All people should accelerate the revolution and construction, always assuming a mobilized and tense posture, and should further strengthen the three positions of our own style of socialism. A people who have confidence in the future, and who struggle with faith and optimism, have an ever-victorious record. We should live and carry out the revolution in consideration of the revolutionary view of life in which the motto we live today for tomorrow is the maxim of life and struggle.

The faith in certain victory in which one has a strong faith in the final victory of the revolution in any environment; the revolutionary optimistic view that

one fights while loudly singing revolutionary songs when faced with any great obstacle; the extraordinary resolution and ardor that enables one to devotedly fight for the future of the fatherland and for the coming generations, though one is unable to enjoy the result of one's struggle. These are revolutionary traits that our people, who are creating a history of victories under the great leader [yongdoja], should possess.

The prospects for the Korean revolution today are brilliant, and our people's spirit of struggle is great. Our people have stoutly fought, always sharing life and death with the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il on the long and arduous road of the struggle. Seeing the sublime image of Comrade Kim Chong-il, they have freshened their faith in certain victory and their courage; have become united in Comrade Kim Chong-il's idea and will; and have overcome severe trials, upholding the esteemed name of Comrade Kim Chong-il as a flag. This is the ever-victorious history of our people.

The energetic and seasoned leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il is encouraging our people to achieve new victories and feats today. Because the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il commands our party, army, and people at the head, the chuche revolutionary cause, to which the great leader [suryongnim] devoted his life, will be invincible forever.

Our party and people will endlessly add luster to the glorious and ever-victorious history of the respected and beloved leader [suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song on the road of fighting, being firmly united around the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Hurrah for the revolutionary idea of the great leader [suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song!

South Korea

ROK: Comments on Kim-Clinton Summit on Cheju Island

SK1704110296 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
17 Apr 96 p 3

[Editorial: "Internationalization of the Question of the Korean Peninsula"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It seems that the summit talks between ROK President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Clinton on 16 April on Cheju Island will have a great effect on the moves to ease tension and to secure a solid peace on the Korean peninsula in the future because the two heads of state have changed their policy toward North Korea.

On that day, the two heads of state jointly proposed that North and South Korea, the United States and

China hold the "four-party talks" in an effort to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula. Also they agreed that the United States will not make direct negotiations with North Korea regarding the issue on a peace agreement and will contact North Korea to discuss other pending issues instead.

North Korea has expressed its objection to this proposal. This constitutes an important factor in determining the success of this new way of approach toward North Korea in the future.

The proposal for holding the four-party talks regarding the question of the Korean peninsula is of very significance because it was put forward jointly by the ROK and the United States. It has been proposed in order that through dialogue, North and South Korea, the parties concerned, and the United States and the PRC, the signatories to the Military Armistice Agreement, may resolve various pending issues, including the matter on easing tension and maintaining a durable peace on the Korean peninsula. Besides, the proposal is an inevitable option to bring the DPRK over to the negotiation table; the North has been attempting to incapacitate the current Armistice Agreement while refusing to hold dialogue with South Korea and insisting on dialogue only with the United States.

Regarding the character of the proposed four-party talks, the ROK and the United States stated that North and South Korea will lead the substantial negotiations and that the United States and the PRC will play the role of assisting the talks. In other words, the talks will adopt the "two-plus-two" formula.

However, we feel somewhat unhappy due to the fact that the United States and the PRC have been invited to resolve the question of the Korean peninsula after the two Koreas failed to resolve the question independently with their own national capacity.

At the summit talks, President Clinton repeatedly stressed that the United States will not directly contact North Korea regarding the issue of signing a peace agreement with North Korea. This is only too natural. However, "separating the peace agreement from U.S.-DPRK talks" could expand the discretionary powers of the United States too much in its policy toward North Korea. Accordingly, there is a possibility that the United States will have its own way in negotiating with North Korea.

The peace agreement with North Korea and the improvement of North Korean-U.S. relations are not separate issues. They are like the fore and the back of a coin.

Among other things, the Clinton administration appears to be accelerating the improvement of relations with North Korea, feeling conscious of this year's U.S. presidential elections. U.S.-DPRK talks should be held simultaneously in keeping in step with the progress in North-South dialogue. This way is more effective.

Although the Geneva nuclear agreement was signed in 1994, no progress has been made either in inter-Korean relations or in U.S.-DPRK relations. This is because the United States hastily held negotiations with North Korea on the threshold of the congressional elections.

Russia's attitude toward the question of the Korean peninsula is another focus of our attention. Russia has put forward multilateral talks following the "two-plus-four" formula, in which Russia and Japan participate. Accordingly, there is a high possibility that Russia will hinder the four-party talks directly or indirectly and that North Korea will take advantage of the PRC and Russia.

North Korea should come to the negotiation table. It should know that this way is the only way to escape its isolated position in international society and to resolve its economic difficulties and food crisis.

ROK: Four-Way Talks Issue Planned for Berlin Missile Meeting

*SK1804022196 Seoul YONHAP in English
0151 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP) — South Korea and the United States plan to use the proposed Pyongyang-Washington talks on Pyongyang's missile technology transfer to Middle East Asian countries to persuade North Korea into accepting the idea of quadripartite talks over a permanent peace agreement on the Korean peninsula, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

"The missile talks were originally intended to address U.S. concerns about the possibility of North Korea exporting its missile technology to countries in the Middle East and other conventional weapons of mass destruction including chemical and biological weaponry," the official said.

"It's inevitable at this moment to raise the issue of the four-way meeting at the missile talks because South Korea and the United States jointly proposed the four-way meeting Tuesday," he said.

The official was referring to the proposal made by President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton on talks among South and North Korea, the United States and China to negotiate a permanent peace regime on the Korean peninsula.

Reports have indicated that the missile talks were scheduled for April 19 in Berlin, Germany, but the official confirmed that for some reasons neither the United States nor North Korea has sent its delegation to Berlin yet.

It's possible that the talks will be delayed, according to the official.

The official also expects North Korea to take its temporary peace agreement proposal for South and North Korea to the missile talks.

ROK Daily Views DPRK Positions on 'Four-Way Talks'

*SK1704145496 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
17 Apr 96 p 3*

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been learned that for now, North Korea has rejected the "four-way talks" which the ROK and the United States put forth. According to Russia's ITAR-TASS News Agency, Son Song-pil, North Korea's ambassador to Russia, held a news conference just two hours after the proposal for the four-way talks was made, flatly rejecting it by saying: "There is no reason to hold an international meeting to establish a new security system on the Korean peninsula." ITAR-TASS reported that Ambassador Son claimed: "No other countries, except for the United States and North Korea, have any role in concluding the peace agreement."

It was learned that after being requested to comment on the proposal for the four-way talks, Yi Sam-no, DPRK ambassador to Thailand, confirmed his government's position by saying: "New negotiations to replace the Armistice Agreement must be held between the parties concerned — the United States and North Korea." It seems the remarks by Son Song-pil and Yi Sam-no considerably reflect the official position of the North Korean authorities.

On the other hand, there is a great possibility that North Korea may overturn their remarks and respond to the four-way talks. The Ministry of National Unification revealed: As of now, it is difficult to view their comments as North Korea's official position. We must observe the announcement of North Korea's official position through its government-controlled news agency."

In the past, North Korea had shown a negative attitude toward "multi-faceted security talks," including the "2-plus-2 method." North Korea's consistent claim was: "South Korea, a colonial cat's paw which has no real power, is in no position to take part in the conclusion of the peace agreement."

On the occasion of 15 August 1995, the 50th anniversary of liberation, the government provided the tenta-

tively named "plan to establish security on the Korean peninsula" to North Korea, with the four-way talks as the main framework. However, it misfired due to North Korean opposition. Regarding PRC Premier Li Peng's claim in November 1994 that "all related countries must participate in the process of establishing a new peace agreement system," North Korea did not directly name the PRC, but opposed this by saying: "If countries that have no relation to the Korean issue interfere, it will only complicate establishing a new peace guarantee system."

However, there is a possibility North Korea will accept the four-way talks at some point. This will occur when the ROK and United States provide a "carrot," such as economic assistance, so that North Korea will accept the four-way talks, or when the situation is driven to the point that an improvement in U.S.-North Korea relations is a precondition for the four-way talks. It is expected that if the PRC plays an appropriate role, the conditions for North Korea to reject this proposal will become more and more narrow.

It is expected that Japan and Russia, which have been eliminated from the four-way talks, will also be variables on whether North Korea accepts these talks. This will become clear when, regardless of the progress in South-North relations, Japan resumes negotiations with North Korea to establish diplomatic relations, and thus resolves the issue of compensation, and when Russia actively comes forth to revive North Korea's economy. In addition, if Russia insists on the so-called six-way talks in the form of "2-plus-4," there is a possibility North Korea may intentionally delay the four-way talks, using this as an excuse.

ROK Editorial Comments on Making Four-Party Talks Successful

SK1804032496 (Internet) The Digital Choson Ilbo WWW in English 1222 GMT 17 Apr 96

[Editorial: "Making Four-Party Talks a Success"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The proposal to enter four-party talks marks an epochal change in South Korean policy towards North Korea. Previously, we have called for direct negotiation between the North and the South. At this point, whether Pyongyang accepts the changes or not, it is likely that plans for the four-party format will be instituted over the long-term. President Kim, Yong-sam says that this will be the last proposal we can offer to the North.

Rather than simply wait for a response from the North, we need to make every effort to insure their acceptance of the proposal. The primary goal should be to let the

North Korean government understand that the four-party format is the most rational option for all parties.

The diplomatic environment for holding four-party talks is favorable among the other countries involved. Should China agree to participate, for example, the U.S. seems to view this as a chance to work on settling other diplomatic issues between the two countries, such as human rights violations and trade sanctions. By their turns, China, Russia, and Japan also seem to perceive the four-party talks as a forum where they will be able to act out their diplomatic roles.

In our desire for the success of the talks, however, we should not rush North Korea into decisions they are not ready to make. If they are unable to accept the proposal for four-party talks, then we need to make a concentrated effort to correct this attitude, preferably without using the promises of rice as a lure. Instead, we need to display our generosity, and the willingness to open the way for issues that are compellingly important to the North Korea.

To this end, we should not interfere with the North's independent negotiations with the U.S., Japan, and other countries. It is also important that we allay North Korean fears of opening their society to the so-called "pollution of freedom."

Though it will take time and effort, we must make North Korea believe that four-party talks can only help stabilize their political environment and economy.

ROK, U.S. Measures To 'Encourage' DPRK to Accept Talks Noted

SK1804045396 (Internet) The Chungang Ilbo WWW in English 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Both the governments of South Korea and the United States have reportedly come up with multilateral measures including that of incorporating an accord between the 4 nations engaged in the Korean war in one final agreement, in order to encourage North Korea to accept the '4-way talks' proposed by South Korea and the United States.

ROK's Kim: DPRK, ROK Should Play Leading Role in 4-Way Talks

SK1804010696 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Apr 96 p 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Kim Yong-sam said yesterday that both South and North Korea should play the leading role in the four-nation talks aimed at bringing a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

"South and North Korea will be the main players in the four-way talks," Kim said in a meeting with his cabinet members.

Kim called in the cabinet ministers to Chongwadae [presidential offices] to brief them over breakfast about the summit meeting he had with U.S. President Bill Clinton on Cheju Island Tuesday.

The South Korea-U.S. summit was highlighted by a proposal that the two Koreas meet with the United States and China to discuss establishment of a new peace structure on the Peninsula.

Kim also lunched with National Assembly Speaker Hwang Nak-chu, Prime Minister Yi Su-sung, Chief Justice Yun Kwan and Kim Yong-chun, president of the Constitutional Court.

The President said that the Cheju summit was successful in both its significance and substance.

"The summit will be marked as a historic one (with the proposal) drawing an important line in national unification," Kim said.

"It also bears great significance in that we demonstrated to the world our aspiration for peaceful unification and our reasonable attitude toward that goal."

He said that South Korea considered making a unilateral announcement of a proposal for the four-nation parley last year on the Aug. 15 anniversary of Korean liberation from Japan's colonial rule.

"But we put off the plan temporarily because we had doubts about its effectiveness at that time," Kim said.

He said that the United States expects that the four-nation talks will contribute to its relations with China as well.

ROK Expects DPRK To Accept Four-Way Talks 'Eventually'

SK1804013196 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 18 Apr 96 p 2

[Report by staff reporter Kim Kyong-ho: "South Korean Officials Preparing for Rocky Journey to Peace Talks"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Korean officials are bracing for a long and rocky diplomatic journey toward establishing a new Korean peace regime after the South Korean-U.S. proposal for four-way talks with North Korea and China.

Despite its initial negative response, most of the officials say that North Korea will eventually accept the proposal.

But some officials and analysts say that North Korea may make a counterproposal aimed at reducing South Korea's role.

Following the offer to have a four-party meeting by President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton Tuesday, North Korea reacted negatively to the proposal through its overseas missions.

North Korea's Ambassador to Moscow Son Song-pil said Pyongyang saw no need for four-way talks and favored negotiations with the United States alone.

He was quoted by Russia's ITAR-TASS news agency as saying, "At present other countries have no role to play in this area. There is no need for an international conference on this question."

Yi Sam-no, North Korea's envoy in Bangkok, also insisted the United States and North Korea hold bilateral talks on establishing a new peace regime on the Korean Peninsula to replace the 1953 Armistice Agreement.

South Korean officials yesterday played down such negative remarks by North Korean diplomats, saying they cannot be regarded as North Korea's official response.

Mun Mu-hong, assistant minister of national unification for policy, said he does not give much credibility to Son's remarks.

He even suggested the possibility that his remarks may have been exaggerated by the official Russian news agency.

Another unification ministry official said Seoul will still wait for North Korea to make an official response through its official news media or the organ of the North Korean Workers' Party.

He said South Korea will immediately propose officials from South and North Korea meet to prepare for the proposed four-way talks if the North makes a favorable response, or at least a reserved response to the proposal for a four-nation parley.

Their optimistic view seems to be based upon their judgment that North Korea will have no other choice than to accept the proposal since the United States has made it clear it will not hold exclusive talks with Pyongyang on the building of a peace regime in the future.

But they still admit it will take considerable time before North Korea departs from its long-standing demand for a peace treaty with the United States.

Such guarded optimism was also expressed by President Kim and his U.S. counterpart Bill Clinton at a news conference after their summit.

"We can't expect the North to make a positive response tomorrow, but it will have no choice but to accept the proposal in the long run," Kim said.

Clinton said, "... What's important is to put the offer out there and let it stand and be patient."

South Korea and the United States are expected to take a series of measures to give the North economic incentives for accepting the proposal for four-way talks.

Despite such incentives, however, North Korea may not accept the proposal as it is.

Some observers say that North Korea may instead put forward a counterproposal aimed at weakening the original proposal.

"North Korea will find it difficult to accept the proposal for four-way talks as it is," said Park Young-ho, chief researcher at the Research Institute for National Unification.

North Korea may propose Pyongyang and Washington first hold talks on the framework of the peace regime with Seoul and Beijing joining later.

This possibility was hinted by North Korean Ambassador to Thailand Yi, who suggested Tuesday that South Korea may be allowed in the U.S.-North Korea talks as an observer.

ROK Envoy: ROK May Be Invited as 'Observer' to 4-Way Talks

SK1804031996 Seoul YONHAP in English
0259 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 18 (YONHAP) — North Korean Ambassador to Thailand Yi Sam-no said Wednesday that his country is ready to discuss the possibility of having South Korea as an observer in its peace negotiations with the United States, the MAINICHI SHIMBUN reported in a dispatch from Bangkok Thursday.

A peace treaty on the Korean peninsula is a matter that should be discussed between North Korea and the United States, the Japanese-language newspaper quoted Yi as saying in an interview he proposed.

Asked to comment on the possibility of a four-party meeting that would work to establish a peace regime in Korea proposed by South Korea and the United States Tuesday, the ambassador said there is "room for a careful study" in the proposal, but discussions about replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace treaty should be held between North Korea and the United States as signatories to the former.

The intervention of foreign powers was the root cause of the Korean tragedy and such intervention will make it difficult to settle the Korean issue today, he was further quoted as saying.

Yi, who has served as a delegate to the now-suspended normalization talks with Japan and ambassador to Indonesia, remarked that the Armistice Agreement is already nothing but a piece of paper that exists in name only.

It is a realistic approach for both North Korea and the United States to conclude a temporary agreement before signing a peace treaty, he added.

When asked about South Korea's participation in the peace negotiations with the United States, he said North Korea is prepared to discuss South Korea's participation as an observer with the United States, adding, "I don't mean that we would ignore South Korea."

Noting that North and South Korea have already formed a joint military committee under the joint non-aggression declaration and other arrangements, he said the joint military committee would automatically come into operation if the peace negotiations with the United States went well.

ROK Said Not To Take 'Appeasement' Steps for 4-Party Talks

SK1804051296 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
18 Apr 96 p 2

[Report by Ku Song-sin]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned on 17 April that the government has decided not to take appeasement steps, including the easing of economic sanctions against North Korea, aimed at having North Korea engaged in the quadrilateral talks for the promotion of peace on the Korean peninsula.

A government official revealed on this day: "The issue of quadrilateral talks will be dealt with apart from our existing policy toward North Korea."

The official added that "our epochal assistance to North Korea, expanded economic cooperation, and easing of economic sanctions are possible when North Korea takes corresponding steps."

Regarding the measures following the quadrilateral talks, the official said: "The government is preparing for every situation whether the talks are held or not," adding "we intend to patiently wait for the North side's response."

ROK Daily on DPRK Silence Over 4-Way Talks Proposal*SK1804051796 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
18 Apr 96 p 3*

[Article by reporter Song Ui-tal: "North Korea's Response"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Except for the brief comments by the ambassadors to Russia and Thailand, North Korea has, as of 17 April, not made any particular response to the ROK-U.S. proposal on 16 April for four-party talks. During a news conference, North Korean Ambassador to Russia Son Song-pil hinted at North Korea's rejection, saying: "A third party's involvement is not necessary for ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula, and this issue can only be resolved through direct dialogue between North Korea and the United States." In addition, North Korean Ambassador to Thailand Yi Sam-no reiterated North Korea's position on holding U.S.-North Korea talks, by saying: "We consider the Armistice Agreement signed in 1953 to be an agreement signed between the DPRK and the United States."

Even though the envoys to the two major countries in Asia and Europe with which North Korea has friendly relations have occasionally voiced the views of the North Korean Government, officials of the ROK's Ministry of National Unification, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other government agencies, feel that it is difficult to consider the remarks by the two ambassadors as North Korea's final and definitive, official reaction, primarily because the Foreign Ministry, NODONG SINMUN, and other official channels have remained silent.

Furthermore, the two envoys commented within two to four hours after the ROK and the United States advanced the proposal, so that they probably did not have enough time to receive diplomatic directives on North Korea's official position, and, may have voiced their personal views. Another reason why the ROK Government does not consider their remarks to be North Korea's final and definite official reaction is: Those two envoys did not use such negative expressions as "We cannot accept four-party talks" but reiterated such stereotypical North Korean demands as the demand that the United States accept the North Korean proposal for signing an interim agreement.

A high-ranking ROK Government official says: "In the short term, North Korea may react negatively to the ROK-U.S. joint proposal and advance a new proposal upon revising the ROK-U.S. proposal. Nonetheless, it will eventually have no choice but to accept the four-party talks given its dire economic situation."

ROK Government Hopes for 'Positive' DPRK Response on Talks*SK1804144996 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network
in Korean 1400 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Regarding North Korea's first official response to the proposal for four-way talks in which North Korea said it is prudently examining the practicality of this, the government concludes that North Korea has not yet definitely decided on its position.

After assuming as much regarding North Korea's response, earlier today Kim Kyong-ung, spokesman of the Ministry of National Unification, said it seems that North Korea has not directly rejected the proposal for four-way talks, and revealed that the ROK hopes North Korea will continue to respond in a positive way.

ROK: Quadrilateral Talks Result of 'Endless Contacts'*SK1804150596 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
17 Apr 96 p 4*

[By reporters Kim Chang-ki and Ku Song-chae from Soguipo]

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been learned that the four-way talks jointly proposed at the 16 April Cheju summit talks between President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Clinton, came out after behind-the-scenes negotiations which lasted for two months. It was learned that prior to the proposal for the four-way talks, there were endless contacts and work to harmonize opinions between high-ranking working-level officials of both countries. It was also learned that diplomacy was carried out toward the PRC, which is regarded as one of the important variables in this matter.

As a practical alternative to establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula, the government had been officially examining the idea of four-way talks from July of last year. Internal examination of this matter was carried out on several occasions so it could be announced in the president's 15 August congratulatory speech, and the pros and cons of the four-way talks were discussed.

However, at that time, considering the South-North Beijing contacts to assist the North with rice; the PRC's position; and North Korea's situation, it was decided that "it was not yet time" to make a proposal for four-way talks.

This matter, which had been dormant, once again raised its head in mid-February when Anthony Lake, U.S. White House national security advisor, visited the ROK. At that time to avoid the media, Yu Chong-ha, secretary for foreign affairs to Chongwadae [presidential

offices] and Lake did not carry out official functions but instead climbed Mt. Halla on Cheju Island. However, it was learned that internally, there were in-depth consultations between the two regarding the four-way talks. According to President Kim's order, Secretary Yu continued working-level negotiations with Mr. Lake and thus provided a basic framework for the proposal for four-way talks, and with the final decision for President Clinton to visit the ROK, the joint proposal for the four-way talks had quickened its pace.

In particular, after there was an announcement on President Clinton's visit to Cheju Island, North Korea abruptly carried out offensive acts such as attempting to make the Armistice Agreement powerless and making incursions at Panmunjom. As a concrete alternative to such offensive acts, it was finally decided to propose the four-way talks to the North.

In connection with the proposal made this time, it was learned that our government was very sensitive to the North concerning this matter. On 14 April, two days before the proposal was made, our government showed sincerity in notifying North Korea about the background and content of the four-way talks through the Indonesian Government.

It is very rare for the government to express such sincerity prior to making a proposal to the North. This was to show that this proposal was not intended to instigate North Korea.

An official of the Foreign Ministry said the reason Indonesia was chosen as the indirect channel with the North was that it has a North Korean mission there and our intentions could be conveyed surely and safely. This official said that 10 years ago when a proposal was made to the North, Indonesia was used as a channel then also.

ROK: Defector Believes DPRK Can 'Press' U.S. Over Nuclear Issue

*SK1704115896 Seoul YONHAP in English
1126 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 17 (YONHAP) — North Korea believes that if only they press the United States for something over the nuclear issue, they can have it, a former North Korean diplomat said here Wednesday.

"Unless North Korea gives up this belief, they will carry on provocative acts from time to time," Hyon Song-il, who escaped the North Korean Embassy in Zambia to defect to South Korea last January, said.

In an hour-long lecture before Foreign Ministry officials including Minister Kong No-myong, Hyon said that as a means of controlling high-level officials, Kim

Chong-il keeps some distance from the heads of major government offices and instead maintains close ties with their deputies.

"For instance, Kim Chong-il maintains only formal relations with Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam while being very close to Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu," he said.

Hyon said that North Korean Embassy staffs abroad live in a circumstance in which they can hardly maintain even the minimum necessary prestige as diplomats.

Given the economic difficulties facing North Korea lately, it remains to be seen how long the North would be able to retain their system, the North Korean defector added.

ROK: U.S. Military Said Preparing for DPRK Collapse

*SK1804092796 Seoul YONHAP in English
0818 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP) — The U.S. Pacific Command is reportedly working on a multilateral contingency plan to prepare for the possibility of a sudden North Korean collapse, which involves the reinforcement of military units in South Korea, the STARS AND STRIPES reported Thursday.

The U.S. military paper, in an article reprinted from the SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER, said that the Pacific Command's plans for responding to the communist country's collapse are in addition to a war plan which would bring a large-scale U.S. reinforcement of South Korean and American troops.

"The plans are in addition to a detailed war plan by which hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops would rush to beef up the 650,000-man South Korean military and the 37,000 U.S. personnel already there," according to the paper.

Quoting remarks made by Pacific Commander Adm. Joseph Prueher in an interview with the Seattle-based paper, the STARS AND STRIPES said that the U.S. military has put North Korea under a microscope with an array of satellites, reconnaissance aircraft and electronic intelligence-gathering systems.

"We are watching them really carefully and at considerable cost," the commander was quoted as having said and added that one of his biggest concerns about Korea is the decline in communications between the communist regime and the West.

Details of the planning for the decline of North Korea remain classified, but Prueher said that a recent debate

among his headquarters staff centered on whether U.S. military units in South Korea should be heavily reinforced if the North begins to show signs of collapse.

Prueher and other senior commanders said that tensions in Korea, immediately following a crisis in the Taiwan Strait this spring, provide graphic proof that the post-cold war era is a volatile one, the paper reported.

U.S. Army Gen. Gary Luck, the combined forces commander in Korea, recently warned Congress that the threat of a North Korean collapse and the chances of a war are not either or possibilities.

"The question is not will this country disintegrate, but rather how will it disintegrate, by implosion or explosion and when," Luck told the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee last month.

ROK: Seoul's Reaction to U.S.-Japan Security Declaration 'Mixed'

*SK1804015996 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
18 Apr 96 p 2*

[By staff reporter Son Ke-yong]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul's reactions to the U.S.-Japan declaration on security are mixed, with some fearing Japan's rising military influences in East Asia and others expressing hope that Japan's military ambition will be checked in the new security framework.

So far, security in East Asia has been bolstered by two security arrangements — one between Washington and Seoul and the other between Washington and Tokyo.

The "U.S.-Japan Joint Declaration on Security," issued with U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to Tokyo, means that one pillar of the two security arrangements had been redressed to address post-Cold War security concerns in this region and increase Japan's logistical support for the United States.

"The two leaders agreed on the necessity to promote bilateral policy coordination, including studies on bilateral cooperation in dealing with situations that may emerge in the areas surrounding Japan which will have an important influence on the peace and security of Japan," the joint statement said.

Officially, Seoul hoped that the new security arrangement would be implemented in the direction of "contributing to peace and security on the Korean peninsula."

"In a sense, the new security declaration will help contribute to South Korea's security because it will ensure swift and organized participation of the U.S.

military stationed in Japan in any future conflicts on the Korean peninsula," a Foreign Ministry official said.

However, other officials and analysts view that the new declaration will help Japan increase its military influences as the U.S.-Japan security arrangement will develop into the direction that Japan's Self-Defense Forces play "appropriate roles" in this region eventually.

The United States apparently gave Japan assurances that Tokyo can seek an increased military role. The statement reads, "The Prime Minister confirmed Japan's fundamental defense policy as articulated in its new 'National Defense Program Outline' adopted in November 1995, which underscored that the Japanese defense capabilities should play appropriate roles in the security environment after the Cold War."

They also signed an "acquisition and cross servicing agreement" that contains Japan's logistical support during the U.S.-Japan joint exercises and international humanitarian rescue activities.

A special committee for defense cooperation will be set up to set the range of Japan's logistical supports in the case of contingencies in East Asia. So far, the guideline for defense cooperation vaguely set the range of Japan's supports by noting that both countries will jointly study the range. The two countries agreed to "initiate a review of the 1978 Guidelines for U.S.-Japan Defense Cooperation to build upon the close working relationship already established between them," according to the new declaration.

The joint panel will study how to increase Japan's contributions to regional security, especially in volatile East Asia, within the confines of its pacifist post-war Constitution.

Debates on whether Japan's increased military role in this region is constitutional have been held in Japanese parliament, and some lawmakers have called for the revision of the Constitution to address the changing security environment and open the way for Japan to increase its contribution to regional security.

The possibility of Japan's increased security role in the region has already touched off uneasiness in South and North Korea and China, which have lingering memories of Japan's war-time atrocities.

Particularly, China would react sensitively to the new security framework between Washington and Tokyo, apparently worried about the possibility that Japan would rise as a regional military power and Washington and Tokyo would jointly engage in security issues in Taiwan, which it regards as a renegade province.

Therefore, the two countries made an overture to China, stressing the importance of China's participation in future security arrangements in this region. "They emphasized that it is extremely important for the stability and prosperity of the region that China play a positive and constructive role and, in this context, stressed the interest of both countries in further cooperation with China," the statement reads.

ROK Foreign Ministry Welcomes U.S.-Japan Security Declaration

SK1804091596 Seoul YONHAP in English
0828 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP) — South Korea welcomed the U.S.-Japan Joint Security Declaration Thursday, saying that the declaration reaffirmed their continued joint efforts to maintain peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.

A statement released by the Foreign Ministry also expected that the Joint Security Declaration will contribute to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, because the declaration made it clear that the United States will continue to maintain its role in securing peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region.

In a related move, a Foreign Ministry official dismissed speculations that the joint declaration will allow Japan to expand its military role in East Asia.

"I don't think Japan's pacifist Constitution will allow its Self-Defense Forces to engage in military operations outside of its territory," he said. "We, however, can presume that the pacifist Constitution allows Japan to commit itself in non-combat peacekeeping operations (PKO) at the request of the United Nations."

The official noted that ultra-rightist forces in Japan have for a long time called for a revision of the U.S.-imposed Constitution which bans Japan's right to "collective defense" so that Japan could become a "normal" country but added that the Joint Security Declaration will serve to quell the move toward revision of the Constitution by strengthening the joint security alliance.

His theory is that "the more military commitments the United States make in Asia, the less possibility of Japan actively operating militarily in Asia."

What we should worry about is, on the contrary, the possibility of the United States retreating from Asia, the official said.

"In that sense, we welcome the Joint Security Declaration," he said, adding that the United States at least needs to protect its own interests in Asia where the U.S. maintains important trade and economic relations.

The official again dismissed concerns over the possibility of the declaration allowing Japan to expand its military role in Asia, insisting that the basic framework of the joint declaration is how to help non-combat U.S. forces to operate in Asia.

Local reports, however, expressed concerns that the South Korean Government tacitly approved the bid by Japan and the United States to expand Japan's military role in Asia by welcoming the Joint Security Declaration.

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry earlier in the day warned against the possibility of the Joint Security Declaration paving the way for Japan to expand its military role in Asia to one reminiscent of its World War II militarism.

The spokesman was referring to, among others, the section of the declaration which calls for the United States and Japan to begin revision talks for the 1978 guidelines for cooperative relations between the two countries in defense of Japan.

The guidelines set standards for what the two countries can do in case of crises within the Japanese territory.

Washington and Japan, however, agreed in the new Joint Security Declaration on the need for studying what they can do in the event that one of its neighbors has a crisis. Such a move has long been considered as a serious violation of the pacifist Constitution imposed by the United States at the end of World War II.

ROK: DPRK Reportedly To Stage 'Large-Scale' Armed Forces Display

SK1804042396 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN
in Korean 18 Apr 96 p 1

[Report by Beijing-based correspondent Yi Kil-u]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned on 17 April that a serious confrontation is underway between hard-line and moderate factions within North Korea over the peace agreement and negotiations with the United States. Some hard-liners in the North Korean party and military are showing a negative attitude toward the four-way meeting aimed at building peace on the Korean peninsula.

Besides, following its recent moves to disable the DMZ, the hard-line faction in North Korea is actively reviewing a plan to stage a large-scale display of armed forces by mobilizing 1,000 tanks and 10,000 troops in the Iron Triangle located in the northern side of the Military Demarcation Line.

This was revealed by an ethnic Korean scholar during an exclusive interview with a HANGYORE SINMUN

reporter. The scholar recently visited North Korea and met with high-ranking North Korean officials of the party, Foreign Ministry, and military. He is known to have visited North Korea frequently and had close contacts with high-ranking North Korean officials. He stated: "I cannot but disclose the movement of the hard-liners of the party and the military because I believe it is a dangerous movement that may harm the future of the Korean people and the Korean peninsula. At present, a serious confrontation prevails between the moderate faction based in the Foreign Ministry and the hard-line faction centered in the party and the military within North Korea."

He also stated that "the proposal for a four-way meeting for a peace regime on the Korean peninsula was conveyed to North Korea through a diplomatic channel before the ROK-U.S. summit. However, some hard-line officials showed opposition, and sense of rejection to China's participation, in particular."

He said: Following the recent display of armed forces in the DMZ, the North Korean military is planning to stage another one by mobilizing a larger scale of troops and equipment. Concretely speaking, the North Korean military is positively reviewing a plan to stage a display of armed forces by mobilizing 1,000 tanks and 10,000 troops in the Iron Triangle in the North side." He added that "the Iron Triangle can be clearly seen from the South side. North Korea selected this area as the site of the display and will attempt to assemble its tanks and troops in this area. One would easily understand the intention of this display of armed forces."

This scholar pointed out that "Considering the confrontation between the hard-line and moderate factions, the number of North Korean officials who are skeptical of Kim Chong-il's leadership is increasing. In their private gatherings, some officials openly complained and even showed a sense of hatred."

He said that "For South Koreans or others to be overly sensitive to North Korea's display of armed forces, would mean that they are being dragged into the hard-line faction's strategy. Therefore, it is better for them to ignore it."

ROK: Kim Yong-sam, Kim Tae-chung Discuss 'Wide Range' of Issues

SK1804095596 Seoul YONHAP in English
0912 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam briefed Kim Tae-chung, president of the main opposition National Congress for New Politics (NCNP), Thursday on his meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton on Cheju Island Tuesday,

including their proposal for a four-nation meeting to discuss a permanent peace regime on the Korean Peninsula with North Korea and China.

In their first one-on-one meeting at Chongwadae [presidential offices] since President Kim took office in February 1993, the two political leaders also discussed a wide range of political issues, including post-election government-opposition cooperation, investigations of election law violations, the issue of 1992 presidential campaign funds, generational change in politics and the newly-elected parliament where the ruling party failed to become the majority party.

They agreed on the need for government-opposition cooperation in dealing with North Korea's provocation during the luncheon which lasted two hours and 10 minutes, Chongwadae spokesman Yun Yo-chun said.

When the opposition leader asked about the on-going investigations into alleged election law violations, which was included in his 14-item questionnaire, President Kim said he had instructed the prosecution to conduct a thorough probe.

"I've not yet received a full report on the investigation, but I think a considerable number of lawmakers-elect will lose their newly-won parliamentary seats as a result of the investigations," he added.

Kim Tae-chung told President Kim that it is not right for the ruling party to artificially increase its parliamentary seats to hold a majority in the National Assembly by attracting Independent lawmakers to join the party.

However, President Kim said that the party cannot keep politicians from acting according to their beliefs, adding, "A considerable number of independent lawmaker elects have already expressed a desire to join the NKP."

In the April 11 general elections, the NKP won 139 seats and still needs 11 seats more if it is to become a majority party.

About a possible constitutional revision towards parliamentary cabinet system, President Kim said that he is firmly opposed to the revision.

"The parliamentary cabinet system is the source of corrupted politics. In the situation that South and North Korea are facing opposite each other, it is very difficult for this country to defend itself with the parliamentary cabinet system. There will never be a revision of the constitution during my term in office," President Kim said.

About the controversial election campaign fund of then ruling Liberal Democratic Party for the 1992

presidential election, President Kim said that then-president No Tae-u did not want him to be elected as president.

President Kim reminded the opposition leader of No's withdrawal from then-ruling party shortly before the presidential election. "They acted in a way that they would not have if they wanted me to be elected president. In such situation, what do you think president No would have given me?" he asked.

Kim Tae-chung quoted the president as saying, "I would never seek another term. There can never be a parliamentary cabinet system which is the source of national ruin. Believe me 99 percent."

The chief executive was known to have promised that former presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u shall be "strictly and thoroughly" punished under law.

President Kim also explained that the proposed four-way meeting to discuss a peace regime on the Korean Peninsula could be held at the ministerial or vice ministerial level, the NCNP leader said.

Kim Tae-chung said he called on in the meeting the need to have a thorough investigation into instances of "vote-buying and the meddling by government offices in electioneering" which he claimed were rampant during the campaign period for the new National Assembly to make a smooth sail and for the national administration to be done on the basis of harmony between the ruling and opposition parties.

The opposition leader called on President Kim to clarify his position regarding suspicions surrounding his campaign funds in the 1992 presidential election.

The NCNP leader said in the meeting, "Since I was hard hit by the allegation that I had raked in tens of billions of won during the (1992 presidential) election (from former President No), besides the 2 billion won (which I already confessed to having received), light should be shed on this issue, too."

He also said to the president, "I hope that you will be able to go down in history as a president who realized a democratic nation, and I am willing to cooperate in the reform drive."

The NCNP leader pointed out, however, that inter-party conflict and political turmoil should not be created by calling for an "artificial generational shift" in political leadership.

The NCNP leader rated his meeting with the president positively by saying, "I feel that politics based on

dialogue might be possible since we agreed to meet with each other frequently."

ROK: Prosecution To Examine 108 Suspected Election Violations

*SK1704125496 Seoul YONHAP in English
1219 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 17 (YONHAP) — A total of 108 legislators-elect are facing prosecution probe on charges of violating the Election Law, the Prosecutor General's Office reported Wednesday.

Of them, 79 were already booked and the remaining 29 are being preliminarily checked, the report said.

By party affiliation, the total of the booked includes 47 of the ruling New Korea Party (NKP), 13 of the National Congress for New Politics (NCNP), 13 of the United Liberal Democrats (ULD), four of the Democratic Party (DP) and two independents.

"Excepting those who would be cleared of their charges, all suspects will begin to be summoned Thursday for full-fledged investigation," a prosecution official said.

About 10 of them are facing intensive probe for their suspected distribution of money to voters, he said.

They include Cho Chong-sok, ULD, Yesan; No Ki-tae, NKP, Changnyong-A; Yi Ki-mun, NCNP, Inchon Kyeyang-Kanghwa-A; Kuk Chang-kun, NCNP, Tamyang-Changsong; Kim Il-yun, Independent, Kyongju-A; and Yi Kung-kyu, ULD, Sochon.

ROK: 'Punitive Actions' for Law Breakers Regardless of Party

*SK1804111496 Seoul YONHAP in English
0916 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP) — Law enforcement authorities are expected to take massive punitive actions against those who violated election laws during last week's general elections, irrespective of party affiliations.

President Kim Yong-sam told opposition leader Kim Tae-chung during a two-hour lunch meeting at Chongwadae [presidential offices] Thursday, "I've instructed the prosecution to thoroughly investigate suspected election law violators, regardless of their party affiliations. A considerable number of lawmakers-elect might be deprived of their seats."

Rep. Kang Sam-chae, secretary general of the ruling New Korea Party, said, "If instances of violation are discovered as a result of thorough investigations by the prosecutors office, the perpetrators will be punished according to the law. There will be no exceptions for our party members."

The stern penalties envisioned for election law violations reflect President Kim's determination to achieve

political reform by election revolution that rigorously enforces the revised integrated election law, a ruling party official said.

Of the 299 legislators-elect, 79 are being formally investigated and 29 informally, 20 of the investigations focus on allegations of vote-buying, according to the prosecution.

Burma

Burma: Suu Kyi Prevented From Celebrating New Year

BK1604160696 London BBC in Burmese
to Burma 1345 GMT 16 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The opposition party, the National League for Democracy [NLD], has reported that authorities have put up barbed wire near the home of Burma's opposition leader, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in order to prevent her from participating in celebrating the Burmese New Year.

This is the first time they have done this to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who was released last July after nearly six-years of house arrest. Officials have guaranteed that her release was unconditional and that all her restrictions were lifted. But, journalists believed although no reasons were given, the authorities were afraid that the NLD might use the New Year celebrations for political gain.

Burma: Students Claim Junta Thwarts NLD, Suu Kyi Meeting

BK1704032296 (Internet) BurmaNet News in English
17 Apr 96

[Report from "Voice of the Peacock ABSDF (All Burma Students Democratic Front) (Camp 88)," dated 16 April — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Since the beginning of April, the NLD [National League for Democracy] party has prepared to celebrate the New Year Water Festival in front of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence. Thingyan or the water festival is the biggest event in Burma. Normally University Avenue where her residence is located is a crowded road in every Thingyan festival as it connects from one township to another in the area.

From the very first day of Thingyan celebrations up until today the University Avenue has been sealed from both ends by the SLORC (State Law and Order Restoration Council). All vehicles and people have been prohibited to pass through this road and have to use the other ways instead.

Today is the first day of the new year in Burmese calendar and Rangooners stop playing water but go to listen to monks recite Dhamma [teaching of the Buddha] to repel the evils and wrongs of the previous year. There is also a custom of freeing fishes into lakes and rivers as a part of merit making to welcome the new year.

A news has been spread in Rangoon that Aung San Suu Kyi has called her NLD parliamentarians throughout the country to gather in her residence to hold a meeting. It

appears that the SLORC intends to disrupt the meeting that may not even take place because they clearly want her to confine in her home. Whether the meeting is taking place or not it is a precaution from the part of the SLORC to stop democratic messages reaching other parts of the country. Recently, the stance of the SLORC towards democratic movement has become more aggressive.

Burma: Artistes Warned Against Being Used by Antinationals

BK1804063496 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 12 Apr 96 p 5

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Secretary-1 Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt met EC [Executive Committee] members of Myanmar [Burma] Motion Picture Asiayon [Association] at the Ministry of Defense this afternoon.

The EC members will achieve success if they carry out their task with noble and correct objectives, giving priority on majority's benefit and respecting the minority's interest, he pointed out.

Artistes are gaining success due to the government's assistance and the popularity they win with the public, he stated, adding the government has been rendering allround assistance to them including formation of the Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon.

The Asiayon and artistes should concentrate on efforts for the benefit of the citizen and the state, and they are to entertain, educate and organize the public.

As people love and honour film artistes, they should requite meta [loving kindness] to their fans in gratitude, he said, urging them to bear in mind they are responsible for perpetuation of Myanmar tradition and culture, vitalization of patriotism and uplift of national prestige and integrity through their profession.

Myanmar Motion Picture Diamond Jubilee celebrations could be marked as a milestone in the history of Myanmar films and culture as the government and the respective ministries provided considerable assistance to hold it on a grand scale, enabling film artistes to enjoy unprecedented public popularity, he noted.

Artistes should properly educate and give knowledge to people with wrong intention toward the nation to enable them to have correct knowledge, view and thought and to correct their attitude, he stated, warning them against being misused in their profession through acts against the citizen and the state, who are their true benefactors.

Only true artistes are able to work for the benefit of the public, the state and the fine arts sector, he said,

urging members of the Asiayon to cooperative with this conviction [sentence as printed].

Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt urged new generation artistes to show respect to and to encourage doyen artistes of the film world, adding every artiste should render as much assistance as possible to aged artistes who are in difficulties.

Fine arts, he said, is not only for entertainment but also for education and organization, adding artistes should give priority to perpetuating tradition and culture, uplifting national prestige and integrity and vitalizing patriotism.

Chairman of the Asiayon U Sein Tin and EC members explained provision of equipment for film production, upgrading of cinemas, advertisement on TV and in newspapers, opening of a film school, honouring of persons who assisted in filming movies benefiting the nation, eradication of video pirating, speedy enactment of video law and assisting aged artistes.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Brigadier General Win Tin, Minister for Information Major General Aye Kyaw and heads of department spoke of measures to prohibit pirating and showing of videos and screening of censorless foreign videos, for speedy enactment of video law, to provide raw film and equipment for improvement of Myanmar films and to privatise cinemas.

The secretary-1 looked into their requirements, saying movie-making is cooperative work and that a good movie can be produced only through harmonious efforts of the director, actors, actresses and technicians.

He spoke of the need to strive with family spirit and comradeship to narrow down the income gap among artistes.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander Brig. Gen. Khin Maung Than, Director General Lieutenant Colonel Pe Thein of State Law and Order Restoration Council Office, heads of department and other officials were also present.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Malaysia: Caution Urged Over EU's Proposed Investment Pact

BK1704020896 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0810 GMT 16 Apr 96

[Station Commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The warning by the ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry, ASEAN CCI, to treat with caution Europe's proposed multilateral investment treaty should be taken seriously. At face value the proposal mooted at the Asia-Europe meeting in Bangkok looks promising but ASEAN countries know better. Somewhere along the line there will be a move to include conditions not related to trade and investment in the pact.

It was not surprising, therefore, for the just-ended ASEAN CCI meeting in Jakarta to warn of serious consequences if Asia accede to such a treaty. At the crux of the matter is Europe's call for national treatment being accorded to all companies despite their origin.

In the first place, ASEAN countries have become one of the most attractive regions for foreign direct investment. This a clear reflection that there is nothing wrong with their investments policies. As evidence ASEAN, or for that matter Asia, has never been dependent only on the European Union, EU, for investment. Intra-Asia investment and trade too have not fueled growth of economies in the region.

Companies in North America are also investing in Asia and trading with its companies contributing to economic growth on both sides of the Pacific. At the same Asia has been forging links with developing countries in other regions, recently Latin America and Africa. Asia is also playing host to Australia and New Zealand and South Pacific Islands. It is clear that ASEAN and Asia are looking at a big picture attracting investments from all over the globe. As such, the EU's proposal for an exclusive investment guarantee treaty thus seems to be limiting.

Asia resisted such an idea in Bangkok. They are also against the proposal being admitted into discussion at the World Trade Organization, WTO, ministerial meeting in Singapore. The EU's move shows that it is not satisfied with the present investment arrangements with Asian countries. Why should this be so when more and more European companies are looking this way. Do they want a better treatment than the others or are they

afraid of not being able to compete at par with other companies from the rest of the world?

Asia also is concerned that Europe might want to attach social and labor standards as well human rights and environmental issues to such an agreement. These are extreme issues which should be dealt with at the right fora such as the International Labor Organization and the United Nations, not the WTO. However, this does not mean that Asia is closed to the idea. It is better for Asia to adopt a wait-and-see attitude until more details of the investment treaty are laid down. Agreeing to it at this stage might not make good economic sense. Asia's investment policies have worked well so far as can be seen from the numerous foreign investors flocking to the region. These have worked out fine and there is no reason for it to be lectured at this stage by others on how to do things their way.

Malaysia: Papers Comment on Mahathir's Oxford Speech on Islam

BK1704153896

[FBIS Report] Two Malay language dailies, UTUSAN MALAYSIA and WATAN on 17 April carry reports on Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's speech entitled "Islam: The Misunderstood Religion" delivered at Oxford on Tuesday 16 April on Islam.

In a 600-word report by its Oxford-based correspondent Baharom Mahusin on pages 1 and 2, the UTUSAN MALAYSIA notes Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed as saying that "the West is currently making an effort to eradicate Islam in the same way it eradicated communism when it successfully brought about its collapse."

UTUSAN MALAYSIA notes the statement by the prime minister in which he said that if the West showed concern for Islam, particularly through the mass media, then it was not made in total sincerity.

Further, the daily also notes that the prime minister stressed that the West's misunderstanding of and prejudice against Islam had hampered good and cordial relations between Muslims and non-Muslims. In his speech, he also stated that Europeans are no longer considered as fanatical Christians, but their negative attitude and outlook toward Islam and Muslims still remain.

The daily also notes Mahathir's statement in which he stated that "at a time when numerous other races were having ties with Islam and had accepted the religion, the Europeans totally rejected Islam" In his speech Mahathir also admitted that the Muslim community is weak. However, Muslims have become more disappointed

with the West's anti-Islamic propaganda activities and misunderstanding.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA notes Mahathir speech also touched on Islam's glorious and historic chapter during the seventh and 15th century before the decline of the Islamic civilization. Also, the prime minister considered the West's opposition to Islam as fanatical.

The daily adds that Mahathir pointed out that the West deliberately continued its propaganda against Islam and linked it to acts of terrorism and fundamentalism and cited Malaysia's experience as an Islamic nation. He added that the West considered the acts of atrocities conducted by non-Muslims as not linked to religion.

The daily further notes that Mahathir remarked that "the massacre and torture of Bosnians by Christians Serbs have never been considered as heinous acts carried out by Christians."

In conclusion, UTUSAN MALAYSIA notes Mahathir's call to the West to make an effort to understand Islam and says that "world will become a better place for all if all misunderstandings were eliminated."

Meanwhile, WATAN carries a 500-word report on 17 April on page 2 saying the majority of the Muslim community in Malaysia had proved that they can live harmoniously with non-Muslims but the Western media was reluctant to accept this as something in Islam's favor.

The daily also notes Mahathir's statement in which he stated that the West was prejudiced against Islam and the ability of Muslims in Malaysia to live harmoniously alongside the other non-Muslims.

WATAN also adds that Mahathir pointed out that the West frequently asked about the existence of fundamentalism in Malaysia but when given a reply never accepted the fact that fundamentalism has never existed in Malaysia.

Continuing, the daily notes Mahathir's remark saying that trivial misunderstandings with regard to Islam had never, in any way, hampered Muslims or retarded their progress.

In conclusion, WATAN notes Mahathir's statement 17/153] Two Malay language dailies, UTUSAN MALAYSIA and WATAN on 17 April carry reports on Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's speech entitled "Islam: The Misunderstood Religion" delivered at Oxford on Tuesday 16 April on Islam.

In a 600-word report by its Oxford-based correspondent Baharom Mahusin on pages 1 and 2, the UTUSAN

MALAYSIA notes Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed as saying that "the West is currently making an effort to eradicate Islam in the same way it eradicated communism when it successfully brought about its collapse."

UTUSAN MALAYSIA notes the statement by the prime minister in which he said that if the West showed concern for Islam, particularly through the mass media, then it was not made in total sincerity.

Further, the daily also notes that the prime minister stressed that the West's misunderstanding of and prejudice against Islam had hampered good and cordial relations between Muslims and non-Muslims. In his speech, he also stated that Europeans are no longer considered as fanatical Christians, but their negative attitude and outlook toward Islam and Muslims still remain.

The daily also notes Mahathir's statement in which he stated that "at a time when numerous other races were having ties with Islam and had accepted the religion, the Europeans totally rejected Islam" In his speech Mahathir also admitted that the Muslim community is weak. However, Muslims have become more disappointed with the West's anti-Islamic propaganda activities and misunderstanding.

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In conclusion, **WATAN** notes Mahathir's statement in which he considered the existence of friction among the various Islamic nations and sects as un-Islamic.

Singapore

Singapore: Australia's Downer Arrives for Three-Day Visit

LD1804082896 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0700 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia's foreign minister, Alexander Downer, has arrived in Singapore for a three-day visit aimed at reaffirming stronger links forged by Australia's former Labour Party government. Mr. Downer was met on arrival by his Singapore counterpart, Shunmugam Jayakumar, with whom he will hold talks later today before calling on Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. Former Australian prime minister Paul Keating, whose government was defeated by the conservatives in elections last month, declared a new partnership with Singapore in a visit last December. Mr. Downer will fly on to Thailand following his visit to Singapore.

Cambodia

Cambodia: Khmer Rouge Leader Denies Abducting British Deminer

BK1804033496 Hong Kong AFP in English 1155 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PHNOM PENH, April 17 (AFP) — The nominal leader of the Khmer Rouge has denied that the Maoist rebel group is responsible for the abduction of a British mine clearance expert and his Cambodian interpreter.

"The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) would like to make sure that (people know) that the NADK does not know anything about this and is

not involved in this case," Khieu Samphan wrote in an April 15 letter to King Norodom Sihanouk released by the palace Wednesday.

Last week, the king said he had written to Khieu Samphan, the prime minister of the Khmer Rouge's provisional government, asking that Briton Christopher Howes, 36, of Bristol, England and his Cambodian translator be moved out of Khmer Rouge controlled territory.

The king was responding to reports from authorities in the northern province of Siem Reap who said they believed Howes and Huon Hourth, both employees of the British-based Mines Advisory Group (MAG), were in the hands of a senior Khmer Rouge commander and had been moved into a Khmer Rouge zone.

The two men have been held in remote parts of Siem Reap since March 26 when they and 25 Cambodian deminers were abducted while making a roadside pagoda safe by a group of armed men linked with the Maoist rebel group.

After Howes refused to act as a courier for a ransom for the Cambodians, all but he and his translator were released.

No further ransom demand has been made and the pair have been moved further north into the jungle since then, according to provincial officials. They were last seen about 100 kilometers (70 miles) north of Siem Reap last week.

Authorities in Siem Reap, 314 kilometers (220 miles) north of the capital, believe that the hostages are now under the control of A Tem, a deputy of the notorious one-legged Khmer Rouge chief of staff Ta Mok, who is also known as "The Butcher."

In his type-written but hand-signed letter to King Sihanouk, Khieu Samphan reiterated an earlier denial of involvement in the incident broadcast by the rebel's clandestine radio station.

"In regard to this problem, I would like to tell the king that on 29 March, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea issued a statement denying any alluded accusation that it is linked to this case."

The Khmer Rouge have used abductions of foreigners in the past, most notably in 1994 when they killed three western tourists they were holding after demanding an end to military aid to the government for their release.

Though Khieu Samphan is ostensibly the leader of the outlawed rebel group, analysts and Cambodian intelligence officials believe that he answers to the highly secretive Pol Pot.

Cambodia: FUNCINPEC, CPP Agree To Avoid Confrontation, Continue Work

*BK1804055996 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian
0200 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The fourth meeting of the commission on the alliance between the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party and the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] was held at the (?Amphore) room at the Sofitel-Cambodiana Hotel at 1800 on 9 April 1996 in order to find ways to coordinate works.

Each side had an eight-member delegation. His Excellency [H.E.] Ing Kiet headed the FUNCINPEC delegation and H.E. Sar Kheng led the CPP.

The discussions lasted over an hour and the two delegations unanimously agreed on the following three-point fundamental stance:

1. We will further maintain, expand, and enhance the alliance between the two parties.
2. We will continue our regular work on issues with which we have no problem. We will strive to find ways to jointly solve, through goodwill, patience, and peaceful means, those issues which we still have problems.
3. We will determinedly avoid confrontation with mutual understanding.

In conclusion, the discussion was held in an atmosphere of sincere friendship. The two sides dined together, and conveyed new year greetings to each other before departing. [Dated] Phnom Penh, 10 April 1996. [Signed] For the CPP Alliance Commission, Say Chhum; for the FUNCINPEC Alliance Commission, Loy Simchheang.

Cambodia: First Legislature's Sixth Session Slated for 19 Apr

*BK1804063696 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian
0500 GMT 18 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Secretariat of the National Assembly has issued an announcement stating the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia will hold its First Legislature's sixth session under the chairmanship of the acting chief of state, Samdech Chea Sim, at the assembly hall at 0800 on 19 April.

The agenda includes: listening to the report on the assembly activities between the fifth and sixth sessions; approving the appointment of new members to assembly

commissions; and debating and approving draft legislations on drug control, the general statute of enterprises, and a proposal requesting the change and appointment of officials at the Women's Affairs Ministry and at the State Secretariat for Relations with Parliament.

Indonesia

Indonesia: Editorial Views Clinton's Foreign Policy
BK1704141196 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
17 Apr 96 p 4

[Editorial: "Foreign Policy Is Also a Feature of the Clinton Administration"]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Bill Clinton was elected as the U.S. leader on the basis of his new economic ideas and his efforts to improve the imbalance in global trade. However, when we look at the nature of his visit to the Asia-Pacific region, particularly to South Korea and Japan, his objective is not to boost economic or trade relations but to talk about security issues.

In fact, Clinton's visit can be specifically interpreted as a message that, when necessary, the United States is ready to clash with North Korea or PRC and is determined to provide full protection to Japan rather than let Japan defend itself. Jim Hoagland wrote this in the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE on 15 April.

Usually there is a long period of planning for an overseas visit by a head of state. However, whether a coincidence or not, the visit by a U.S. president to the Asia-Pacific region takes place not long after PRC's display of strength in the Straits of Taiwan, which caused tension in the area. The visit is also being made when there is tension in the Korean peninsula following Pyongyang's announcement that it no longer honoring the Armistice Agreement that ended the 1950-53 Korean war and when incursions of North Korean troops into the Demilitarized Zone have taken place.

Clinton is expected to hold talks with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam on Cheju Island, during which he will reaffirm that the United States will not fall into the political trap that Pyongyang is trying to set up. In Tokyo, he will reaffirm the United States' military commitment to Japan by renewing a bilateral security pact between the two countries.

All the messages that Washington wishes to convey to countries with the potential to oppose the U.S. vision have reached their targets. U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry has said that the PRC is not happy with the U.S. message relayed via signals from one of its main ships, but it has received it.

The United States feels that it has been successful in its foreign policy following its success in Bosnia with the Dayton negotiations. Prior to that, it was involved in the affairs of Haiti and participated actively in the Israel-Palestine peace process.

According to Thomas Friedman, also from the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE (15 April), Clinton will present his foreign policy to the Republican Party when the U.S. presidential elections are about to take place.

As far as the success achieved in Korea, Bosnia, and Russia is concerned, there is a strong possibility that foreign policy will become Clinton's ticket for the U.S. presidential election campaign. However, Friedman has admitted that Clinton's management of affairs overseas can also become a potential for disaster that can haunt his campaign for the November election.

For example, Clinton has reiterated that he remains firm on his promise to withdraw U.S. troops from Bosnia within a year. No attention has been paid to the question of whether the Dayton peace accord is implemented or not, but who can guarantee that Bosnia will remain peaceful until November?

Even though initially Clinton promised to give priority to economic matters in the United States, later it was clear that he had found a new vision: that the United States would not be peaceful and prosperous unless it participated in the affairs of foreign countries, was a leader outside the country, and cooperated with the United Nations and its allies overseas.

Extracting the foreign policy from other angles will enable Clinton to set aside some personal affairs — such as the Whitewater case — in which his involvement is often mentioned. Clinton's campaign aides can project him as a person who is ready to lead the country in the contest with the Republican candidates, who are trying to stimulate the isolationist feeling of the American community.

Clinton has been quoted as saying that he is not running in the presidential election just for the sake of competing with his competitor, Bob Dole of the Republican Party, but to try to say: "This is my vision of the world; this is what I have performed as a president, and the people can make an assessment of it."

With the issuance of several statements on foreign policy and the latest event — Clinton's visit to the Asia-Pacific — we are confident that the United States under Clinton's leadership still remains a superpower that is determined to maintain its presence in Asia and participate in conflicts in the various regions of the world. All told, it means that the United States continues

to make its foreign policy the political pillar of the government.

In reality this seems different from the theme of Clinton's presidential election campaign in 1992, but it denotes that the political policy to be practiced by the government will be the one that is most advantageous for its survival. This also is apparent in the presidential election campaign this year: while the Republican Party is stirring up the spirit of isolationism, the Clinton Administration is becoming more industrious in foreign policy.

Indonesia: Minister Confirms Resumption of Fuel Supply to DPRK

*BK1804055796 Jakarta MEDIA INDONESIA
in Indonesian 18 Apr 96*

[Unattributed report — received via Internet]

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta (Media) — The Indonesian Government has decided to resume aid to North Korea this year. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas disclosed this decision after receiving three envoys at his office yesterday.

The three envoys are members of the executive council of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO], a consortium that was established by an accord between the United States and North Korea. Under the accord, North Korea agreed to dismantle its nuclear reactor, which could be used to supply fuel for an atomic bomb, and in exchange a number of countries agreed to supply fuel to meet North Korea's energy demand.

The consortium, which was established 18 months ago, has 10 members, including Indonesia. The other members are the United States, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Canada, France, and Finland. The KEDO executive officials who came to Jakarta are from the United States, Japan, and South Korea.

According to Ghaffar Fadyl, director for information of the Department of Foreign Affairs, last year Indonesia supplied 3,000 tons of heavy fuel oil estimated at \$320,000.

According to diplomatic sources contacted by MEDIA INDONESIA, a number of other ASEAN members gave North Korea approximately the same amount as last year.

"Being a KEDO member does not necessarily amount to an obligation to contribute to the program, a nonmember can contribute to it as well," the diplomatic sources said.

Easily Met

The sources said the KEDO's target to supply 500,000 tons of heavy fuel oil to North Korea could be easily met this year.

"We have obtained enough oil to meet North Korea's demand until June," they said.

The KEDO has set a target to supply 500,000 tons of heavy fuel oil each year until construction is complete on two light water reactors, each of which will have capacity of 1,000 megawatts, in North Korea. A light water reactor is a power-generating nuclear reactor, but its waste cannot be used to make an atomic bomb.

According to Dr. Yuwono Sudarsono, deputy governor of the National Defense Institute, "North Korea and South Korea have regarded Indonesia as an honest broker" due to the country's active efforts to help achieve peace on the Korean peninsula.

South Korea has asked Indonesia to relay a proposal to Pyongyang as part of efforts to urge North Korea to hold a dialogue.

Indonesia: Timor Resistance Leader Assails German Government

*LD1704181296 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network
in Portuguese 1700 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Ramos Horta, representative of the Timorese resistance abroad, who is at the United Nations in Geneva, wants to take the German government to court, more specifically to the European human rights tribunal, over the Jakarta embassy episode. He is on the line from Geneva. Good afternoon Ramos Horta. Do you still intend to lodge a complaint even though there is news of the six youths' release?

[Horta] Yes, certainly, because the key issue is the way the European community deals with the Timorese question, the way the European community deals with the citizens from East Timor who, when all is said and done, are Portuguese citizens.

This was not the first incident. It happened before with the Dutch and Russian embassies, when Timorese were forcibly ejected and were beaten up by the police. Some are still missing, and my question is: What guarantees can the German embassy in Jakarta or the German government offer that in one or two weeks' time these youths will not be rearrested and tortured — and perhaps some of them may go missing forever.

[Announcer] At any rate, do you believe the explanation given here by a German diplomatic spokesman?

[Horta] Of course I cannot doubt the diplomat's word. I believe he may be telling the truth. But that does not clear the German government, the embassy, of the responsibility for what happened with the Timorese and for what may happen in a week or two. [passage omitted]

Indonesia: Amnesty Condemns German Embassy for Evicting E. Timorese

*BK1704091096 Hong Kong AFP in English
0605 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SYDNEY, April 17 (AFP) — Amnesty International on Wednesday condemned German officials in Indonesia for their failure to protect a group of East Timorese who were expelled from the German Embassy in Jakarta on Tuesday.

A spokesman for Amnesty said here that eight or nine East Timorese men were handed over to the Indonesian military despite ample evidence that they faced torture and ill-treatment.

"This is the latest incident of foreign embassies in Jakarta failing to take action to protect the rights of East Timorese," the spokesman said.

The men had entered the embassy compound in central Jakarta about 2 a.m., but were ejected by embassy security guards minutes later.

Witnesses said the Timorese were handed to soldiers who guarded the embassy from outside the compound and were then kicked, slapped and beaten by them.

Amnesty said the group were all arrested and taken to Central Jakarta military command and it was not known how many were still being detained.

"Amnesty is concerned that those remaining are at continued risk of further ill-treatment or torture."

Since late September 1995, 72 East Timorese have left for Portugal after entering embassies in Jakarta, but this was the first attempt to seek refuge in the German embassy.

Amnesty has earlier expressed concern that Dutch and Russian governments did not seek sufficient assurances from the Indonesian authorities for the safety of around 118 East Timorese and Indonesian protesters.

They had been expelled from their respective embassies and then taken into police custody after seeking asylum last year.

The spokesperson said these latest embassy expulsions come as human rights in East Timor was being discussed at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

"This latest example of continuing human rights violations against East Timorese engaged in political actions highlights the needs for the international community to take firm action and adopt a strongly worded resolution on East Timor."

Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 and annexed it as its 27th province the following year, but the move has never been recognised by the United Nations.

Indonesia: Mahathir Welcomes German Interest in Industrial Projects

*AU1704150296 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT
in German 17 Apr 96 p 11*

[Report by Christel Pilz and Susanne Rohmund on interview with Indonesian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur; date not given: "Mahathir Wants Help With Railroad Project"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuala Lumpur — Malaysia welcomes the initiative of German companies to establish a railroad technology center in Kuala Lumpur. Yet, says Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad in an interview with HANDELSBLATT, he has not yet received the promised details. "I am awaiting them eagerly."

Major Cross-Border Project

Mahathir coordinates the ASEAN project of a trans-Asian intercity train. "The train is not only intended for carrying passengers, but it will also transport freight between Singapore and Beijing," the politician points out. The heads of government of the ASEAN states appointed the Malaysian prime minister as coordinator for big cross-border projects in the region at the end of last year. A German railroad technology center could play a central role in planning and developing the trans-Asian railroad project, Mahathir says. The project will take decades to implement.

The railroad project is only one of a number of new projects in which German companies have shown an active interest. These include the recently approved construction of a second international airport in northern Malaysia. Mahathir says that German industrialists have urged him to visit Germany, "which I intend to do." The problem is coordinating his schedule with Chancellor Helmut Kohl's.

Mahathir expressly points out that he wants to continue the dialogue with Kohl, which started during the Asia-Europe summit, as soon as possible. The summit took place in Bangkok in early March. Mahathir hopes that he can also welcome the chancellor to Kuala Lumpur in the near future. Despite his many trips to Asia, the chancellor has never visited Malaysia.

The Southeast Asian state is a favorite location of German companies. More than 100 German firms have production facilities there; some 400 have subsidiaries in the budding tiger state. Under Mahathir's 15-year leadership, Malaysia has developed from an exporter of raw material to an industrial goods exporter. Now Mahathir plans to expand the country's export capacity. "Our current account deficit is too high," he says. That is why Mahathir will introduce a new industrial policy in the five-year plan that is expected to be published at the end of April. That new policy will aim at using more locally produced raw materials, reducing imports, and producing technically more sophisticated and internationally competitive products.

There are, however, a number of obstacles that must be overcome first. Mahathir: "Malaysia only has a population of 20 million, and we have little usable land." Fifty percent of the country is jungle. That is why labor and land intensive productions must be moved to countries like Indonesia, Vietnam, or the Philippines. Only a couple of days ago, Mahathir opened a branch of the Maybank, Malaysia's biggest private bank, and an assembly plant of the Malaysian car producer Proton in Hanoi. Many Malaysian companies have already moved their production to the north of the Indonesian island of Sumatra. Malaysia is currently setting up an industrial park in Padang, West Sumatra. Furthermore, the government has been considering building a bridge to connect the Malaysian mainland with the island of Sumatra via the Strait of Malacca.

Mahathir regards the industrial countries' stubborn attempts to link human rights and social clauses with trade issues as a problem. Such intentions aim at undermining the competitiveness of the aspiring countries in Asia, he says. "In our eyes, this is hidden protectionism," the prime minister says. He says that he has noticed that no such debates on human rights are conducted about countries with which the industrial states do not compete. Mahathir mentions Kashmir and the former Yugoslavia as examples.

Reject the West's Pressure

"Whatever the West may demand from us, we will not let them irritate us," the Malaysian politician stresses. Mahathir does not want to adopt the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) tariff-cutting concept until Malaysian industry is in a position "to compete with the international giants." Certain industries have not yet reached international competitiveness, he says. These include the Malaysian car industry. So far, Malaysia is the only country in Southeast Asia that produces a national car. The car producer is heavily subsidized. "In a small country like Malaysia establishing an industry

like the car industry needs protection," the prime minister says. But, "we will meet the requirements of the World Trade Organization," Mahathir notes. "But within the framework of the APEC forum we will lay down a date that we consider appropriate."

APEC, which was founded in 1989, currently consists of 18 countries on both sides of the Pacific. In a declaration of intention in 1994, the APEC heads of government affirmed that they will lift all trade and investment barriers in their region by the year 2020.

In his interview with *HANDELSBLATT*, Mahathir deplores that the debate within APEC increasingly concentrates on issues in connection with the opening of markets. In contrast to that, the talks during the Asian-European summit were much more comprehensive. "There the heads of government did not only discuss economic issues, but they also talked about political and cultural topics and academic exchange programs," he says approvingly. Yet, Mahathir does not see a necessity to formalize the Asian-European meetings. The heads of government have the opportunity to continue the dialogue any time, he says.

Indonesia: ICRC Doctor: Irian Jaya Hostages' Health Deteriorating

*BK1704123296 Hong Kong AFP in English
1214 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Jakarta, April 17 (AFP) — The health of some of the 11 hostages held by separatist rebels for more than three months in eastern Indonesia is deteriorating, relief agency sources said Wednesday.

An International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) team that included a doctor visited the hostages at a secret site in a mountainous region near Mapnduma in Irian Jaya province on Wednesday, a source close to the operation told AFP.

They delivered food and medicine, but the source quoted the doctor as saying: "The health of some of the Indonesian hostages is deteriorating — they are not in perfect condition."

The separatist Free Papua Movement (OPM) took 26 people hostage in central Irian Jaya on January 8. The rebels have since released 15 people but still hold six Europeans and five Indonesians.

Sergeant Basri of the Irian Jaya military told AFP from the provincial capital of Jayapura that "so far there is no further development" in efforts to free the hostages.

The hostages were working on a scientific expedition organised by the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) when captured.

The Europeans held are four Britons, Daniel Start, 21, William Oates, 22, Annette van der Kolk, 21 and Anna McIvor, 20, and two Dutch nationals, WWF worker Mark Van Der Wal and UNESCO environment official Martha Klein. Klein is entering her seventh month of pregnancy.

The source close to the ICRC mission did not give details on the health of the Europeans, but a diplomatic source said last week the foreigners, including Klein, "are doing fine, they have no health problems."

The ICRC for the last two months has been assisting in efforts to negotiate with the OPM, and its doctor has been allowed to visit the hostages three times, the source said.

Senior military officials have said the armed forces will continue to abstain from using force, relying on persuasion to free the hostages.

The OPM has been fighting for an independent Melanesian state in Irian Jaya since 1964, when the former Dutch colony of Western New Guinea became Indonesian territory.

Indonesia: Bad Weather Delays Red Cross Team's Trip to Irian Jaya

*BK1704123596 Jakarta MEDIA INDONESIA
in Indonesian 15 Apr 96 p 20*

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jakarta (MEDIA) — A team of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] had to postpone its plan to fly to Irian Jaya to meet with Irian Jaya GPK [security disturbance movement] leaders Kelly Kwalik and Daniel Kogoya due to bad weather in Jayapura. The ICRC team's trip is aimed at securing the release of the hostages held by the Irian Jaya GPK.

"We planned to fly to Jayapura on 13 April, but we had to delay the trip until the next day due to the bad weather; and again it has had to be delayed for similar reasons," said Henry Fournier, ICRC chief representative for Indonesia, to a MEDIA correspondent in Jakarta on 14 April. Due to the continued bad weather, the ICRC team may have to wait until 18 April.

Fournier admitted that the ICRC team's delayed trip will stall efforts to free the hostages held by Kwalik and Kogoya since 8 January. The hostages were last visited by a three-man ICRC team on 27 March. The first visit was made on 29 February when Kwalik still held the hostages in Mapnduma village. [passage omitted on unconfirmed report on the hostages' health]

Indonesia: Editorial Views Significance of Downer's Visit

*BK1704104696 Jakarta SUARA KARYA
in Indonesian 17 Apr 96 p 5*

[Editorial: "The Australian Foreign Minister's Visit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The transfer of the Australian Government's leadership from the Labor Party to the coalition of Liberal-National Parties following the 2 March elections has produced plenty of speculative analysis among political observers. Some believe that Prime Minister John Howard will focus his government's foreign policy on Europe and the United States. In other words, Australia will adopt its old traditional attitude.

Other observers believe that Howard will continue the Asia-oriented policy initiated by the previous Labor government, but with a different style. There are also those who believe that Howard will adopt a balanced foreign policy, giving equal treatment to Asia, the United States, and Europe.

However, in contrast to all the aforementioned views, in our 5 March editorial greeting Howard's elections victory, we asserted that the new Australian Government would continue its policy toward Indonesia as well as its Asia-Pacific policy initiated by the previous Labor government.

Our expectation appears to have come true with the visit to Jakarta by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer from 15-16 April. After he held talks with President Suharto yesterday, Downer said Canberra wants to maintain cordial ties with Indonesia in various areas for the sake of Australia's security. He stressed that the new Australian Government will honor the bilateral security treaty signed in 1995.

Downer said: "Prime Minister John Howard hopes he can soon visit Indonesia to meet with President Suharto. Australia also hopes that President Suharto will be able to visit Australia soon."

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who accompanied his Australian counterpart to his meeting with President Suharto, said: "The president welcomes the Australian Government's stand on emphasizing cordial ties with Asian countries, including Indonesia." Alatas also expressed his confidence that John Howard and his ministers would consistently adhere to their foreign policy priorities.

From Downer's visit to Indonesia, it can be concluded that the reservations of political observers concerning Australia's foreign policy toward Asian countries, including Indonesia, have been shown as unwarranted as

a result of the Australian Government's realistic and progressive stand. As the country that initiated the establishment of APEC, it would be strange and inconsistent if the new Australian Government did not continue the various commitments made by the previous government.

On this occasion, we would like to stress Downer's remarks that any differences of opinion between the two countries should not be allowed to strain the close bilateral ties.

The Australian foreign minister's visit has clarified Canberra's policy toward Asian countries, especially toward Indonesia. We hope that in the future the existing bilateral cooperation can be further upgraded with more substance.

Indonesia: Economists Say Indonesia Must Avoid ODA

96se0051A *Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian*
23 Mar 96 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta (KOMPAS)—As the third biggest debtor country in the world, Indonesia must begin to free itself of dependency on government-based foreign development aid (ODA—official development assistance). Reasons for this include the increasing demand for diversification in the volumes of aid funds for former communist countries.

"With these changes, the developing countries, as aid recipients, must adapt by adopting more efficient development strategies, in line with market-oriented policies," said Keiji Omura, Councilor of the Institute of Developing Economies on Wednesday, 20 March, in Jakarta.

Omura said that under the WTO (World Trade Organization) agreement made after the Uruguay Round, developing countries facing international competition must now depend on the role of the private sector. They will continue to need government-based foreign development aid (ODA) to make up for their lack of savings, however.

Meanwhile, Mari Elka Pangestu, chief of the Economics Department of the CSIS [Center for Strategic and International Studies], pointed out that from 1990 to 1993 the net flow of capital to developing countries almost doubled, from \$99.1 billion to \$213 billion. It was clear, however, that there was no growth in the ODA component of that capital flow.

"What expanded was the flow of private capital in the form of nonbank investment funds (FDI—foreign direct investment), bonds, and portfolios. Of these, portfolios had the most drastic increase, from \$4 billion in 1990 to \$40 billion in 1993," Mari said.

However, he continued, this expansion of capital flow has suffered a set-back since 1994 because of rising interest rates in the United States, causing a return flow of capital to that country.

Adapt

Omura continued by saying that Indonesia as a debtor country is not exempt from the necessity to adapt to changes in capital flow, particularly in connection with ODA conditions. The problem for Indonesia is not only the size of its unpaid foreign debt, but also its negative net transfer, which eliminates flexibility in development management.

For Indonesia, the foreign aid problems that need to be managed well in the future are as follows. The first is the limit on additional foreign aid. This is a result of limited donor country funds, diversification of aid to new borrowers, and the high DSR (debt service ratio, which is the ratio of debt repayment installments and interest to total exports of goods and services), which has reached more than 20 percent. This has hit Indonesia in the form of a lower loan ceiling.

Second, a heavy repayment burden makes the structure of the budget and balance of payments very vulnerable and inflexible with regard to management of development and economic stability. Third, the increase in commercial and "semiconcessional" loans will add to the interest payment burden in the future. Fourth, the decline in ODA has been followed by greater dependency on several donors, particularly Japan. Economic fluctuations in that country will influence Indonesia's economy both positively and negatively.

Proceed With Deregulation

To resolve these problems, Omura said, the Indonesian government needs to do several things. First, it should proceed with deregulation policies to improve macroeconomic conditions, which open the door widely to the flow of foreign aid. Second, it should pump up the inflow of net transfers or reduce payments on real debts to reduce the government's inflexibility in the budget and balance of payments. Third, it should diversify its development sources.

His general conclusion was that the best way for Indonesia to resolve its financial problems is to improve domestic savings deposits through economic development. The use of development resources by both the government and the private sector can no longer be avoided. This should be done through well-managed institutional mechanisms that are supported by democratic, transparent, and balanced policies.

Meanwhile, Mari said that dependency on external funds can be limited in ways. First, the current account deficit, which in macro terms is equivalent to the domestic savings-investment deficit, must not exceed 4 percent, and there must not be big fluctuations in the size of the deficit.

Another thing, as also mentioned by Omura, is the need for diversification in sources of capital inflow. There is no other way to control capital flow directly, except by government loans, and they must be managed properly.

Indonesia: Bishop's Absence from Next East Timor Meeting Regretted

96SE0051B Jakarta TIRAS in Indonesian 21 Mar 96
p 71

[Article by Fadjar Harijanto: "East Timor and a Dialogue for Seeking Resolution"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The path to finding a political resolution to the East Timor problem still appears to be a long one. In the midst of Indonesia's enthusiasm for the Second AETD (All-Inclusive Intra-East-Timorese Dialogue), to take place in Austria on 19 March, a dismaying report suddenly emerges: Mgr. Carlos Filepe Ximenes Belo, SDB [Societes don Bosco], bishop of the Dili Diocese, declared that he is declining to attend the important meeting.

This is despite the fact that the AETD is a comprehensive dialogue at the initiative and invitation of the United Nations. Indonesia hopes that from the AETD forum will emerge a brighter political solution. The AETD proposal came out of the fifth tripartite round between Indonesia and Portugal, with the UN secretary general as mediator, on 9 January 1995.

"I will not attend the upcoming meeting. I have informed the other participants," he said. His reason? At the First AETD, he said, he attended merely as mediator. According to Belo, it is now time for politicians from Timor to take up the duty and responsibility for resolving their own problems. "They must seek a way to reach a solution through dialogue and discussion."

Francisco Xavier do Amaral agrees with Belo's view. In other words, we should first resolve things internally in order to solve the East Timor problem. "It is as though there are internal things that we are slow in resolving. People on the outside, however, appear not to want to accept realities in East Timor," he said. Nevertheless, Amaral also regrets that the prominent spiritual figure from East Timor will not attend.

For Amaral, Bishop Belo should think not only as a religious figure respected by the people, but also as a

native of East Timor. The absence of Bishop Belo from the coming AETD will have at least two consequences.

First, the inflexible position of the anti-integration group will make more difficulties for the prointegration element, because there will no longer be a prominent figure in the middle. At the minimum, they will know that there has been a division among representatives of the prointegration group.

Second, if Bishop Belo does indeed send his deputy, Mgr. Jose Antonio da Costa (vicar general/deputy to the bishop of Dili), it is not certain that he will have the same capacity as Belo as a mediating figure. In other words, it will be pointless. East Timor Governor Abilio Jose Osorio Soares acknowledges that the absence of Bishop Belo will have an impact on the Second AETD. There will not only be fewer participants, but Belo's presence has been greatly anticipated, because he is a figure acceptable to both groups, pro and anti. "Without the bishop's presence, however, a maturity will be demanded from all parties. Let us not use that as an excuse to do foolish things, however," he said further.

Francisco Xavier Lopez da Cruz, roving ambassador with special duties, also acknowledged the importance of Bishop Belo's participation in the AETD. "Bishop Belo's presence is very important, because he is like an umbrella for all groups. If he does not attend, however, we ask his prayers that the meeting will be successful," Lopez da Cruz said.

Meanwhile, Mario Viegas Carrascalao, former East Timor governor and now ambassador to Romania and Moldova, feels the First AETD meeting was more positive for the anti-integration group. Carrascalao said further that the first thing to do to stabilize integration is to make reconciliation within East Timor itself. What is the purpose of reconciliation with the outside, when we who are prointegration alone are not unified? Unify the prointegration people in East Timor first. We must be unified first, and then the outside aspect will automatically be easy. It will not be too difficult.

It may be that the former number-one man in Indonesia's youngest province truly understands the conditions and behavior of the East Timorese. However, the opinion expressed by Ghaffar Fadyl, director general for overseas information, citing a statement by Ali Alatas, may also be right. The gist of it is that Indonesia indeed wants the forum for conciliation among the factions to be beneficial in the context of seeking a comprehensive resolution of the East Timor problem.

It would be good, however, to examine the opinion of the East Timorese native who was formerly president of FRETILIN [Revolutionary Front for an Independent

East Timor], Francisco Xavier do Amaral: "Whatever the nature of the government's effort to bring prosperity to the people and region of East Timor, it will not have maximum success if the people of East Timor themselves do not plunge directly and seriously into seeking a way to achieve that."

Indonesia: Minister Comments on Role of ABRI in Society

96SE0055A Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
28 Mar 96 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—Soesilo Soedarman, coordinating minister for political affairs and security, stated in Jakarta on 27 March that the people do not need to be concerned about the role of ABRI [the Indonesian Armed Forces], because ABRI is still the fighting armed force which bases its statements, behavior, and service on the people.

"It should be noted, as said by the coordinating minister for political affairs and security, that the people do not need to be concerned about ABRI," a subject matter that has recently been discussed by the people.

This is the second time in two successive days that the coordinating minister for political affairs and security has made this kind of statement. On 26 March, after speaking in Jakarta to the National Coordination Meeting (RAKORNAS) on Indonesian Export Services, he said: "The people should have no doubts about it. Essentially, ABRI continues to stand above all groups." The coordinating minister for political affairs and security made this statement after being asked his opinion about a statement made by General Hartono, the chief of staff of the Indonesian Army (KSAD), that ABRI stands behind GOLKAR [Functional Groups party] and that ABRI constitutes the cadre of GOLKAR.

Three Foundations

Soesilo Soedarman said that the concept of ABRI as a combat force standing above all groups is based on three important considerations. First, ABRI comes from the people and serves the people as a whole. Secondly, he continued, in performing its functions as a social, political, and defense force ABRI is based on the "Sapta Marga" [The Seven-Fold Path of the Soldier] and the Soldier's Oath. This is in accordance with Law No 20 of 1982 on the Basic Provisions for the Defense and Security of the Republic of Indonesia, which states that ABRI, in carrying out its functions, fights alongside of other social and political forces.

"The third foundation, and this is the most important one, is that ABRI, which belongs to the people, constitutes the message expressed by Supreme Commander

General Soedirman. Therefore, once again, the people have no need to doubt. ABRI still belongs to the people," the minister said.

Ambivalence of Political Format

On a separate occasion Doctor Priyatmoko, professor of political science at the Faculty of Social and Political Science (FISIP) at Airlangga University (Unair) in Surabaya [East Java], stated on 26 March that there has been some confusion among the people about the political position of ABRI because of ambivalence in the political format of the New Order up to the present.

That is, there has been ambivalence between the effort to promote the sacred objectives of the people's sovereignty, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, the pressure caused by the pragmatic need to create political law and order by bringing together political forces to form a single, majority force. Priyatmoko said: "If only we could bring our political discourse back to the sacred goals which set fire to our independence struggle, when ABRI was clearly behind the people because of its birth as a people's and national army."

Doctor Priyatmoko said that the statement made by the Army chief of staff some time ago, that ABRI soldiers are GOLKAR cadres, was made out of General Hartono's political experience. He witnessed ABRI give birth to GOLKAR, and his practical experience was as a soldier when, in a de facto way, the social and political power of ABRI supported GOLKAR as the single party of the majority of the people.

Priyatmoko continued that, as a result, the statement made by General Hartono as Army chief of staff had some consequences, suggesting that if ABRI soldiers are GOLKAR cadres, there is no point in having ABRI personnel as members of the national Parliament and of provincial councils. Indeed, they have no right to be there at all, because ABRI has expressed its support for GOLKAR. Priyatmoko said: "Consequently, ABRI has given its support only to GOLKAR."

Indonesia: ABRI To Defend Principles of Election, Pancasila

96SE0055B Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
27 Mar 96 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—ABRI [the Indonesian Armed Forces] will not hesitate to take firm and decisive action against any effort to make the general elections fail or which undermines and splits national union and unity. Furthermore, ABRI will also take action against any effort to replace the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation] and the

Constitution of 1945 with another philosophy, ideology, and constitution.

This statement was made by Gen Feisal Tanjung, commander of ABRI, on 26 March in the speech with which he opened the 1996 ABRI leadership meeting. The meeting was held at Army Headquarters in Cilangkap [West Java] under the theme: "In Developing the Capacity Underlying the Soul and Spirit of the Sapta Marga [the Seven-Fold Path of the Soldier], ABRI Is Ready to Provide Security for and to Make a Success of the 1997 General Elections and the 1998 General Session of the MPR [People's Consultative Assembly]." Attending the ABRI leadership meeting were Edi Sudradjat, minister of defense and security; the chiefs of staff of the armed services and the Indonesian Police; senior officers from Headquarters of the Indonesian Armed Forces; commanders of Military Defense Regions; and provincial chiefs of police.

In a relatively short speech the ABRI commander said that the Indonesian nation will carry out the 1997 general elections and will hold the 1998 general session of the MPR. These two events have very important and strategic meaning for the life of the Indonesian nation in its preparations to enter the next stage of its subsequent development.

The ABRI commander said: "We must be able to ensure that the 1997 general elections and the 1998 general session of the MPR not only are held safely and successfully but, at the same time, also reflect an increase in the quality of Pancasila democracy. ABRI will not hesitate to act firmly against any effort to cause the general elections to fail."

Demand for Transparency

The ABRI commander said that the success of national development and the speed of the current of globalization which is carrying the nation along with it are encountering a number of obstacles, particularly in terms of indications that there is an increase in the seriousness of disturbances to law and order among the people, as well as a growing demand for transparency. This signals the need for changes in attitude and conduct by the government in serving the people.

In this way, the ABRI commander continued, the character of ABRI service in the future will give greater emphasis to staying close to the law. It will be more closely directed toward supporting the promotion of social justice in handling a number of the problems emerging from within the community.

In this connection he again recalled the readiness of ABRI to bring the Indonesian Police to the forefront. An effort will be made to do this by promoting

the development of law and order among the people, which the Indonesian Police exemplify as the most experienced, skillful, clean, and powerful upholders of the law. Priority attention will be given to raising community involvement in a self-supporting security system.

The ABRI commander said that several efforts which have been made to raise the quality of political life have resulted in the creation of an increasingly healthy and dynamic, political atmosphere. Gen Feisal Tanjung said: "ABRI is determined, and this is part of its identity, always to serve the interests of the nation and people. ABRI will continue to seek to play a stabilizing and dynamic role in the process of national development in a more mature and considered fashion in accordance with the changing times."

Limited Budget

The ABRI commander said that success in creating national stability cannot be separated from the efforts of government bodies and all of the people to play an active role, as well as to create and develop successfully the capabilities and strengths of ABRI itself. The efforts being made to carry on development activity and to make use of the capabilities and strengths of ABRI require a rather large budget.

He said: "However, we realize that the budgetary resources which can be provided are very limited. For that reason ABRI is asked to develop the ability to make use of its budget in an optimum way by setting out a more refined order of priorities."

According to the ABRI commander, the principal challenge facing the Indonesian Armed Forces is how to develop its capabilities in terms of human resources, science, and technology, as well as to make use of strategic industry to meet operational requirements and the need for modernizing ABRI's principal weapons systems in a self-sustaining way and in accordance with other national interests.

Indonesia: Muslim Party Members Defect to GOLKAR

96SE0051C Jakarta GATRA in Indonesian
16 Mar 96 p 43

[FBIS Translated Text] A rally at Freedom Square, Sukabumi, on Monday afternoon of last week [4 March] was bad news for the Development Unity Party (PPP). On the other hand, it was a day of good news for GOLKAR [Functional Group]. Hundreds of citizens gathered there declared simultaneously that they were leaving the PPP. "We support GOLKAR with sincerity," Muchtar Syahid said.

Muchtar Syahid, 43, former chairman of the PPP DPC [Branch Executive Council] for the City of Sukabumi for the 1990-1995 term, was an important figure in the departure action. "At least 2,160 PPP members and sympathizers filled out statements saying they were joining GOLKAR," Muchtar said when reached by GATRA.

"We are frankly happy to receive them. It is the right of citizens to choose the organization they deem good," said H. Hamami Drajat, chairman of the GOLKAR DPD [Regional Executive Council] for the City of Sukabumi. Hamami added, however, that he could not promise them anything. "When they join GOLKAR, they will be treated the same as other cadres. There will be nothing special," he said.

Among the PPP members who turned in their membership cards to the PPP DPP [Central Executive Council] were KH [Muslim scholar and pilgrim] Abdullah (leader of the Sultan Abu Muhasin Islamic Boarding School), Islamic Teacher Habibah Hamdi (chairwoman of NU [Muslim Scholars League] Women of the Sukabumi Branch), and Tuti (chairwoman of the Fatayat [Islamic young women's organization] of the City of Sukabumi).

Muchtar said that he was still active as a member of the PPP Faction but that he would now be sending his letter of resignation. "I have no pretensions at all. Therefore, I freely relinquish all my facilities, including the car belonging to the faction, and return them to those in authority," he said.

The Sukabumi PPP DPC knew far in advance of the departure of Muchtar and his colleagues. If the number of people is correct, it will naturally have an effect, at least for the Sukabumi area, where the PPP received about 26,000 votes in the 1992 elections. Syafruddin Amir, chairman of the Sukabumi PPP DPC questions the number, however. "So far, we have not received their membership cards," Amir said. Amir's assessment was that "the rally was nothing more than a political maneuver for personal purposes."

There is speculation that the action initiated by Muchtar is related to his defeat in the branch conference of April 1995. At that time, Muchtar was defeated in his contest against Drs. Syafruddin Amir. The former DPC secretary now sits as chairman.

Muchtar frankly denied the accusation. He said the move of the Sukabumi PPP members to GOLKAR is entirely for the best. Moreover, the matter of position involved himself alone, whereas thousands of members also moved. "It is like riding a bus. We wanted to

transfer to a bus whose driver was not reckless," Muchtar said by way of justification.

Muchtar did not deny, however, that he was disappointed with some of the actions taken by the PPP DPP. Also, there was the attitude of leaders who did not comply with the constitution and bylaws. For example, there was the issue of the appointment of directors who had not been PPP members for five years.

Syafruddin Amir apparently was the one that Muchtar was referring to. Now serving as chairman of the PPP DPC for the City of Sukabumi for the 1995-2000 term, he was previously DPC secretary from 1990 to 1995. According to Muchtar, Amir was a leader "allocated" by headquarters. "Oh, that is not true. No one uses an allocation system. I was chosen by a branch conference," Amir said. He said he was very sorry, therefore, if Muchtar's departure was because he was not elected as leader.

Laos

Laos: Financial, Monetary Cooperation With PRC Increasing

BK1704125296 Vientiane KPL in English
0929 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vientiane, April 17 (KPL) — Saisomphon Phomvihan, minister of finance, and his delegation arrived home on April 14 ending their seven-day working visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

During its visit, the Lao delegation met a delegation of Chinese Finance Ministry and discussed various issues on cooperation between the two Finance Ministries in the near future and in the long-run.

The Lao delegation also called on Chinese Vice-Premier Zhu Rongji, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party CC [Central Committee].

Zhu and Saisomphon also exchanged views on several issues on financial field, especially in the reforms of taxation system. Saisomphon was also briefed by his Chinese host on the measures taken in the past years on China's financial reforms.

Saisomphon hoped that more Chinese investments would be made in Laos.

The visit by the Lao finance minister and his delegation was aimed at developing friendly [ties] and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Laos: Aide Memoire on Labor Cooperation Signed With China*BK1704154196 Vientiane KPL in English
0921 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vientiane, April 17 (KPL) — The delegations of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare of Laos and of the Ministry of Labour of China on April 14 signed an aide memoire on labour cooperation.

The two sides have agreed upon mutually supplying legal materials such as regulations and data relating to labour. The agreement further stipulates that both sides will further discuss the appointment of a technical delegation of the Lao Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to study labour management in China and at a proper time the Lao side will invite Chinese experts in labour management to consult and hold a seminar on labour management in Laos.

The aide memoire also covers the working visit to Laos by the Chinese delegation of the Ministry of Labour between April 10 and 15 at the invitation of the Lao Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

During the visit, the sides held consultations on labour situation in their respective countries, exchanged experience in cooperation in labour management between the two countries in the future.

The document was signed by Mr. Noi Indavong, deputy minister of labour and social welfare, and Ms. Liu Ya Zhi, deputy labour minister of China.

On April 11, the Chinese delegation paid a courtesy visit to the minister of labour and social welfare, Mr. Thongloun Sisoulit. The discussion centered on development, services, and training of labour as well as work in the area of labour and social welfare.

On the following day, the Chinese delegation called on the mayor of Vientiane Prefecture, Mr. Boun-guang Volachit.

Laos: SRV Premier Concludes Visit, Leaves for Home*BK1704104996 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 16 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet ended his visit and his participation in the celebration of the traditional Lao new year in Luang Prabang Province yesterday morning and returned home. A national radio correspondent reports from Luang Prabang:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] After completing his two-day visit to Laos and participating in the celebration of the traditional Lao new year in Luang Prabang at

the invitation of Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, his wife, and his delegation returned home yesterday morning aboard a special Vietnam Airlines flight.

On this occasion, Luang Prabang Province Governor Chansi Phosikham valued the success of the visit and the participation by the Vietnamese premier, his wife, and his entourage in the traditional Lao new year in Luang Prabang:

[Chansi Phosikham] In my opinion, the SRV prime minister's visit to Luang Prabang Province and participation in the celebration of the traditional Lao new year along with the multiethnic Lao people in Luang Prabang Province affirms the close relations of friendship and solidarity between Laos and Vietnam since ancient times. I believe the visit by the SRV prime minister, his wife, and his delegation and their joining with us in the Lao new year festival will consistently enhance and further strengthen the special relations of friendship, solidarity, and all-around cooperation between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

[Correspondent] During the two-day visit and observance of the new year festival in Luang Prabang Province, SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, his wife, and his delegation paid a courtesy call on LPRD Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon and his wife at the Luang Prabang provincial guest hall. They also visited natural tourist sites such as the Tat Kouang Si waterfall; observed the procession of the nang sangkhan, or new year's queen; joined Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon and the people in pouring auspicious water on Buddha images at Vat Sisouttalat; and visited the people's production bases in Ban Pha Nom and the provincial museum of Luang Prabang.

This is the national radio news team reporting from Luang Prabang. [end recording]

Laos: Meetings Held With SRV Mass Media Delegation*BK1704130596 Vientiane KPL in English
0917 GMT 17 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vientiane, Apr 17 (KPL) — Mr. Osakhan Thammatheva, a Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] CC [Central Committee], minister of information and culture, and acting chief of the LPRP Propaganda and Training Board, yesterday received a Vietnamese delegation of NHAN DAN newspaper, the organ of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The NHAN DAN delegation was led by its deputy editor in chief, Duc Luong. Present at the meeting was also the Vietnamese Embassy's counselor to Laos, Vu Xuan Tuu.

During their talks filled with an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship, Mr. Thammatheva briefed the guest about the outcome of the recent Lao party's Sixth Congress and the party's future guidelines on ideological and cultural affairs.

Earlier on April 12, the NHAN DAN delegation met with the board of editors of the PASASON daily, the organ of the LPRP CC, led by its editor in chief, Houmpheng Sipaseut.

At the meeting, the sides exchanged experiences in news reporting and implementation of resolutions of their respective higher authorities. They also discussed their future cooperation such as the exchange of visits and the training of PASASON's reporters in Vietnam.

The (?Vietnamese delegation) arrived here on April 11 for a one-week working visit.

Meanwhile, another Lao mass media delegation, the delegation of KOSANG PHAK [party building] magazine, yesterday left here for Vietnam on a 10-day working visit at the invitation of the board of editors of XAY DUNG DANG, the CPV CC's magazine. The sides are scheduled to hold a discussion on bilateral cooperation.

Philippines

Manila Suspends Monkey Exports Due to Ebola Virus

BK1804032996 *Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog* 2230 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The government has temporarily suspended the export of monkeys from the Philippines. According to Environment Secretary Victor Ramos, he wants to make sure that there is no contamination of Ebola virus. He also ordered the investigation of the scientific research of a breeding farm in Calamba, Laguna. The DENR [Department of Environment and Natural Resources] officials added that they identified the monkeys through code matching traced to Firlite, the company that is said to have 2,000 monkeys under its care. Each monkey sells for \$500.

Senator Juan Flavio Vea has filed a resolution in the Senate to investigate the death of two monkeys from the Philippines, which was caused by the Ebola virus. Flavio wants to know whether the virus came from the Philippines or from the United States. He added that if the virus came from the Philippines, then it is important to know whether the other animals in the country are under the threat of the virus.

The Department of Health has confirmed that the two monkeys that died from the Ebola virus in Hazelton, Texas are indeed from the Philippines; however, Health Secretary Carmencita Reodica has stated that the Reston strain of the Ebola virus, which was discovered in Philippine monkeys in 1989 is different from the Ebola virus that caused the deaths of many people in Zaire last year.

[Begin Reodica recording in progress, in English]...strain is not similar to the African Ebola virus strain, which is fatal, then it is not also airborne. Then, for the people who work in the farm, we advise them wear protective clothing, masks and gloves. So, the public should not be afraid because there is no danger to prevent, and there is no indication of danger to humans. [end recording]

According to Assistant Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit, 12 of the 186 monkey handlers working in four Philippine monkey exporting companies are infected by the said virus, nevertheless Dayrit assured that those who had been infected were actually not sick.

The Philippines exports 2,000 monkeys every year to Europe, Japan, and United States.

Philippines: Report Shows GDS Growth of 27.2 Percent

BK1704124796 *Manila BUSINESS WORLD*
in English 11 Apr 96 pp 1, 6

[Report by Marvin A. Tort]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gross domestic savings (GDS) or the level at which the country saves its resources rose to P [pesos] 424.5 billion or 21.5% of the economy's total output last year.

The Bangko Sentral's [Central Bank] 1995 annual report shows GDS grew by 27.2% last year or just slightly lower than the 27.5% growth registered in 1994.

Last year's GDS growth was attributed mainly to increased savings by the private sector which has been on an uptrend since 1993. In 1995, private sector savings rose to P328.5 billion or 16.7% of GNP — the sum of all goods and services in the economy.

This is P82.9 billion higher than the 1994 figure which totaled P245.6 billion or 14.1% of GNP. In 1993, private sector savings reached P197.6 billion or only 13.2% of the economy's total output last year.

Public savings, meanwhile, reached P96 billion or 4.9% of GNP in 1995 from P88 billion or 5.1% of GNP in 1994. The higher savings to GNP ratio in 1994 can be explained by the lower economic output that year.

In 1993, public sector savings totaled only P64 billion or 4.3% of GNP. Public savings refer to savings by the national government, government-owned and controlled corporations, government financial institutions, local government units, as well as the Bangko Sentral.

Factors which contributed to the expansion in private savings include relatively higher incomes in 1995 spurred by greater economic activity and growth that year, the BSP [Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas — Central Bank of the Philippines] said.

Also significant to the increase were positive real interest rates and improving "financial intermediation" after the liberalization of bank branching and the entry of more foreign banks into the country, it added.

The BSP also noted the significant expansion of private savings in the last two years to 16.7% from 14.1% of GNP contributed to the continued decline in the savings-investment (S-I) gap.

The S-I gap refers to the gap between the country's savings level and the level of investments required to pursue worthwhile and productive economic activity.

The BSP noted the S-I gap in 1995 continued to decline to 3.2% of nominal GNP which totaled P1.97 trillion that year. In contrast, the S-I gap was at 4.3% of GNP in 1994.

The central monetary authority also said the decline in the S-I gap was reflected in the narrowing of the current account deficit or the gap between foreign exchange inflows and outflows in the balance of payments.

It may be noted a declining S-I gap indicates higher domestic savings are suffice to cover required investments to fuel economic activity. As such, the country may depend less on foreign investments and foreign exchange inflows to spur economic growth.

"National savings were translated into investments through direct plow back of profits to businesses for expansion or other additional investments and financial intermediaries as businesses borrow from banks to finance investments," the BSP said.

In 1995, total investments grew by 19.6% to P488.5 billion, some 77.4% of which or P378.1 billion come from the private sector, the BSP noted. Public investments totaled P110.5 billion, and accounted for 24.8% of GNP.

Philippines: 'Police Reforms' Urged To Stop Terrorism in Mindanao

BK1804032296 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos has expressed opposition to the deployment of CAFGU's [Citizen's

Armed Forces Geographical Unit] for the prevention of terrorism in Mindanao. According to the president, the only hope to solve the problem in Mindanao is the passage of reforms in the Philippine National Police. The president also refused the emergency powers offered by some congressmen to be used in Mindanao.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] And it is this one that I am telling you about, police reforms, these are really amendments to Republic Act 6975 so that we could have this, powers within the organization to be exercised not by me but by the commanders. [end recording]

MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] Secretary General Muslimin Sema revealed that the deployment of MNLF forces in Mindanao caused a Muslim rebellion in the 1970s. He added that the peace talks could have been started if the recruitment and deployment of CAFGU's in Mindanao had been pushed through.

Thailand

Thailand: Arms Acquisition Plans Said Cause of Account Deficit

BK1704104396 Bangkok KRUNGTHAP THURAKIT in Thai 17 Apr 96 p 2

[Editorial: "A Second Mexico — the Bad Dream of the Thai People"]

[FBIS Translated Text] An IMF assessment has indicated the possibility of Thailand facing a financial crisis similar to Mexico's as a result of its trade deficit and current account deficit problems. There is also a rumor that the Thai currency could be devalued once again due to fluctuations in the U.S. currency, to which the baht is closely attached. According to the IMF, Thailand is the only country in Asia whose financial and monetary problems could drastically affect the overall national economic situation. This is a predicament that should gain the urgent attention of the government under Ban-han Sinlapa-acha and the agencies that have been contributing to amassing huge foreign debts.

We feel that a factor contributing to the IMF's assessment of Thailand's risky financial situation is the country's plans to create more debt, along with the government's potential to cope with a financial crisis. Thailand's current account deficit is 7.5 percent of GDP, while Malaysia's is 8.9 percent. Therefore, the current account deficit problem is not a complete reflection of the country's financial problem. The main concern is over the creation of future debts. The recent weapons acquisition plans by the military is a clear example of one cause of the country's current account deficit problem.

A member of parliament noted during an informal meeting in the presence of the prime minister that the armed forces arms acquisition plan is a cause of the current account deficit problem. The prime minister expressed the view that priorities should be assigned to future arms acquisition plans and forwarded to him for consideration. It was a courageous move on the part of the prime minister, but such courage did not last long since he disowned that remark not long afterward. He has instead focused on issues that are minor factors contributing to the current account deficit problem.

Although we praise the prime minister's instruction to the Customs Department to be more strict in checking on Thais returning from tours abroad, including cabinet ministers and members of parliament, we think any inspections of those officials will be merely cursory. However, we disagree with collecting import duties from incoming tourists who bring in goods that total more than 5,000 baht. Such an action is nothing but a superficial show.

We feel that prioritizing the arms acquisition plans is the right way to correct the current account deficit problem because it coincides with the suggestion made yesterday by the finance minister and the governor of the Bank of Thailand.

Thailand: Commerce Ministry Claims Trade Surplus With Canada

*BK1704120696 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
16 Apr 96 p 8*

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] According to a Commerce Ministry source, Thai exports to Canada in 1995 were C\$[Canadian]1.013 billion, or 19.247 billion baht, which is an increase of 13.1 percent over last year. Thailand enjoyed a trade surplus of C\$461.5 million, or 8.768 billion baht, with Canada.

The 20 most important Thai exports to Canada in 1995 totalled 51.8 percent of the total value of Thai exports to Canada. The top five export items to Canada are frozen shrimp, canned tuna, electric circuit boards, computer data receiving units, and processed shrimp. [passage omitted]

Thailand: Asian Officials To Discuss ASEM Plans in May

*BK1704105596 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Apr 96 p A3*

[Report Sa-nguan Khumrungrot]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thailand will convene an informal meeting early next month for Asian countries

that participated in the Asia-Europe Meeting in order to follow up on their propose ideas and plans.

The first informal meeting, which will be attended by senior officials, will be held before the Asean meeting to be held early in May in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The Asian members of Asem comprise the seven members of Asean, as well as Japan, China and South Korea. At a recent meeting at Surabaya, Indonesia, Asean members agreed to appoint Singapore as the focal point for the grouping to coordinate and facilitate work between them while the three non-Asean countries — China, Japan, and South Korea — will decide soon on their point of focus within Asem.

Singapore is currently serving as an Asean-European Union coordinator and Thailand will take over the role next July.

Each Asian country will be asked to prepare papers on projects put forward at Asem last December.

Thailand proposed the establishment of an Asia-Europe Environmental Technology Centre in Pathum Thani; Singapore on an Asia-Europe Foundation to promote activities and exchanges between think-tanks, ordinary people and culture groups; Malaysia on a trans-Asian railway network and the Mekong Basin Development and Japan on a "mini Davos-type" youth exchange programme to strengthen cultural links and the mutual understanding between the two regions.

South Korea, which will host the third Asem after Britain, will present a paper on the "Asia-Europe Vision in 2000".

Thailand: China Gives \$3 Million in Military Aid

*BK1804054996 Bangkok THE NATION in English
18 Apr 96 pp A1, A2*

[Report by Sa-nguan Khumrungrot]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] China yesterday offered a US\$3 million (Bt75 million) military grant to Thailand, the first such assistance to the Kingdom, which has placed large orders for Chinese military hardware and weapons in recent years.

The pledge was made during a meeting yesterday between Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut and a top Chinese army general, Zhang Wannian, who commanded the controversial military exercises in the Taiwan Strait last month.

Zhang, who had an audience with HM [His Majesty] the King last night, is leading a high-level 15-member

Chinese military delegation on an official tour of Thailand, Cambodia, Singapore and Burma.

The Chinese military aid is seen as concrete evidence of China's desire to strengthen its military relations with Thailand.

Chawalit, who is hosting Zhang's visit, said after the talks that the Thai Army would use a part of the grant to purchase Chinese munitions for existing Chinese weapons.

During the talks, Chawalit also thanked Beijing for selling arms to Thailand at "a friendly price" and for assisting the Kingdom in times of need. The Chinese sold seven frigates which helped enhance the Navy's capability to cope with a possible conflict at sea.

Zhang, 68, who is vice chairman of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Military Commission, said the armed forces and defence institutions of the two nations maintained close contacts, according to Thai officials present at the meeting.

Fruitful bilateral cooperation could be seen in the fields of army building, the defence industry and national economic development, he was quoted as saying.

Zhang, who arrived in Bangkok late on Tuesday night, said his trip was aimed at maintaining close high-level contacts, strengthening mutual understanding and trust, and enhancing friendship and cooperation.

His trip coincides with a three-day visit by Adm Joseph Prueher, the new Commander in Chief of the US Pacific Command (CINCPAC), who took up his assignment on Jan 31. Prueher was due to give a media briefing before he departed later today.

Beijing warned the US against any military intervention during the Chinese military exercises, held before the first direct presidential election in Taiwan.

While in Thailand, Zhang and his team will visit the Army's Special Warfare Centre in Lop Buri, U-taphao Naval Base in Chon Buri, and Phuket.

Zhang called on Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha yesterday, and was reassured of Thailand's "one China policy".

The Thai premier, who made an official visit to China last month, told Zhang that he was impressed with China's "economic reform and openness" and expressed hope that bilateral relations between the governments and the armed forces would further flourish.

In return, Zhang praised Thai policy towards China and reiterated the Chinese policy of "peaceful reunification" with Taiwan and the concept of "one China, two systems".

Beijing would adhere to the "eight-principles" policy towards Taiwan, which was announced by President Jiang Zemin early last year, he stressed.

The Chinese general said China maintains the right to use force if Taiwan declared its independence, or in the event of foreign interference.

Zhang told Banhan that China pursued a self-defence military policy and had no intention of either invading any country or of forming a military alliance with any countries or blocs.

Nor would it establish naval bases in other countries, or deploy forces in overseas missions, he added.

The Chinese delegation includes Maj Gen He Ping, the son-in-law of paramount leader Deng Xiaoping. He Ping, director of the Armament Department of the People's Liberation Army, will visit special forces headquarters in Lop Buri.

Thailand: Minister Rejects Baht Devaluation To Cut Deficit

*BK1804054796 Bangkok BUSINESS DAY in English
18 Apr 96 p B1*

[Report by Wannaphon Ruanpanya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bangkok — The baht will not be devaluated in order to curb the rising current account deficit for fear that the move will stir up public chaos, said Finance Minister Surakiat Sathianthai yesterday.

"Thailand's economy is not in enough of a critical situation for such a measure to be launched," said Surakiat, adding the baht devaluation is only a rumor released by some news agencies and analysts.

As well, the Finance Ministry has not yet ordered an increase of cash reserves in the Non-Resident Baht Account.

"No measures, other than the five announced on Tuesday, have been issued to tackle the current account deficit and inflation," he stressed.

Cabinet on Tuesday approved five measures proposed by the Finance Ministry and Bank of Thailand, to ease current national fiscal problems.

Central bank governor Wichit Suphinit said the five measures are expected to efficiently lower the current account deficit and the inflation rate to 6.5 and 4.9 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) by the end of 1996.

Regarding the rising current account deficit, Wichit said it is mainly due to the movement of foreign production bases into Thailand early this year as well as the strong

yen against the US dollar. When asked about future adjustments to the current basket of currencies and how it fits the central bank's long term plan, Wichit said the basket has nothing to do with a devaluation of the baht.

"The change in the currency basket has nothing to do with the devaluation issue," he said, adding the change is a part of the central bank's long-term plan to adjust the calculation of the baht to be in line with the country's real economic fundamentals and international trade.

The baht is pegged to a group of major currencies. The proportion of currencies is not publicly known, but the dollar is believed to have largest weight, followed by the yen and the mark.

Comment on the change in the current basket of currencies over the past few weeks caused a selling of the baht by foreign investors who feared the baht would fall with a change in the basket.

Permanent secretary for finance MR Chatu Mongkhon Sonakun said the growing current account deficit is partly due to inappropriate economic structures.

"A study to adjust the structure to be more suitable is under way," he said. "The suitable solution must be found to help efficiently control the problem."

Regarding the inflows of short-term capital, he said an interest measure is being launched to control it.

Thailand: Finance Ministry Not To Cut Military Budget

BK1804054496 Bangkok THAILAND TIMES
in English 18 Apr 96 p A1

[Report by Warani Khunnawasen and P. Phongphiphatthanaphan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bangkok — The Finance Ministry has succumbed to pressure not to cut the 1997 military budget, especially Defense Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's pet 26-billion-baht Star of Siam military communications satellite project, Finance Minister Surakiat Sathianthai claimed yesterday.

"The military budget will not be slashed as the Finance Ministry is now in a difficult position," he said.

Surakiat said that although the armed forces need a large budget for development, they should take notice of the soaring current account deficit.

"The rising current account deficit and inflation are big concerns," he said. "The Finance Ministry is trying its best to bring the problems under control as quickly as possible."

Last year's deficit has been estimated by the Bank of Thailand at 335.7 billion baht, or equivalent to 8.1

percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP). The government aims to reduce it to about 3 percent in the next five years.

Earlier in the week, the Finance Ministry pointed out that the military's planned megabaht purchases of arms, warships, submarines, tanks and other weapons would be a major contributor to the already serious current account deficit and soaring inflation.

However, Chawalit defended the armed forces, saying the amount asked for by the forces was considerably little. He also warned the government: "Don't touch the military budget."

Former Budget Bureau director Bodi Chunnanon told Thailand Times the bureau expected to put the draft 1997 budget before the Cabinet for consideration next Monday. Once it gets Cabinet approval, it will be put before the Lower House.

Bodi ducked any questions regarding measures to solve the current account deficit or inflation problems, saying both issues were beyond his responsibility.

"I am fully confident the bodies involved, especially the Finance Ministry and Budget Bureau, will implement sufficient measures to tackle those two problems," he said.

Bodi said firmly that no foreign loans would be taken out for arms purchases as it would just cause the country's debts to rise.

Budget Bureau director Seri Suksathaphon told Thailand Times that the armed forces budget was the third highest after that of the ministries of Interior and Education.

"The Defense Ministry will be given about 107 billion baht or 11 percent of the total budget," he said, adding that most of the military budget would be used for the purchase of arms and jet fighters.

Several people within the armed forces have recently defended military spending, adopting Chawalit's line that it is many Thais' luxurious lifestyle that is to blame for the current account deficit.

Army columnist Col Chongsak Phanichakun, better known under his pen name Lt Col Thatthiam Yi-amnakhon, wrote in an article in the April 9 edition of the Army News Magazine to support the spending.

He pointed out that in fact only 10 percent of the total military budget goes on new purchases and the rest is split between salaries, training, supplies, and other overheads.

Last year, the three armed forces received 91,638 million baht or 2.26 percent of the GDP, while they

spent only 9,000 million baht on arms purchases, he said.

Chawalit has also pointed out that, as many of the planned purchases would be made using counter-trade, ie exchange for goods not money, the effect on the deficit would be minimal.

Deputy central bank governor Roengchai Marakhanon said that during the first 10 months of 1995, Thailand's import volume rose 37 percent higher than in the same period during 1994.

"The main cause for this is military expenditure for the purchase of arms, warships and jet fighters," he said.

To curb the soaring current account deficit, a committee chaired by permanent secretary for finance MR [royal title] Chatu Monkhon Sonakun was set up to put a four percent cap on the deficit by 1999.

Chawalit said yesterday he would appear on TV Channel 5 to give a clear public explanation of the military's spending plans. The plans have received strong criticism from both sides of the House in recent weeks.

He said he would answer audience questions during the live broadcast.

Defense permanent secretary Phaibun Emphan said the Star of Siam would be proposed to the Cabinet next week.

"The military are just ringing the bell (to ask for help) and telling the government what we want, but it is up to the Cabinet whether it gives its approval," he said.

He also said the price of the satellite would be less than the 26 billion baht that has been quoted, as the military would allow companies to bid for the contract.

"Everything will be done transparently because it concerns the armed forces' and Chawalit's reputation," he added.

Thailand: Premier Pledges To Follow Up Problems of Poor

BK1704105296 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 16 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha assured the groups protesting near Government House that he would urge the authorities concerned to implement measures, following cabinet approval, to help small-scale farmers cope with their problems. He wanted protesting groups to return home. Prime Minister and Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha explained to the groups of farmers why the cabinet had failed to discuss the farmers' problems at today's meeting. According to him, any steps taken have to follow the

necessary procedures. However, he believed the cabinet secretary general would be able to complete a draft of a final assessment of the problems by tomorrow and present it to the cabinet for consideration on 22 April.

[Begin Banhan recording] The developments at the end of last week brought us close to finalizing matters, with more negotiations to be held today and tomorrow. Some might be confused and wonder why the matter has not been raised in today's cabinet meeting, so I have to explain this. I have explained that there are steps to follow. Since the leaders of the various groups have reached conclusions and set aside their differences, their conclusions will be forwarded to Deputy Prime Minister Montri Phongphanit. The deputy prime minister will then forward the matter to me. I will then give it to the cabinet secretary general, who will prepare a presentation of all the conclusions to the problems to the cabinet for consideration on Monday 22 April. Well, the negotiations will take some time, but I hope all will be completed by tomorrow. If negotiations are over tomorrow, the matter should be on the cabinet agenda of 22 April. I have moved the cabinet session of Tuesday forward because on Monday evening I will leave for Brunei and Indonesia.

Once the cabinet has agreed on the solutions, the authorities concerned will be able to take concrete action to implement the measures within an appropriate timeframe. I pledge to follow up on all action that needs to be implemented. I told the cabinet this morning. Last night and this morning I explained matters to the leaders of the groups rallying in front of the Santi Maitri Building of Government House. I have already given an explanation to them. I have presented their problems to the cabinet for acknowledgement. So, this will be the first concrete step.

In the previous governments, the cabinet ministers concerned were assigned to take charge of their respective problems. Once their responsibilities involved or had an impact on other government agencies, more time was needed for their work; thus, delays in implementation occurred. Now that the cabinet will recognize the problems and solutions first, all the agencies will have to cooperate in implementation. At this point, I told those who met me this morning that I would like to ask them to return home: Please go home. [End recording]

Vietnam

SRV: Vo Van Kiet Receives Governor of Osaka

BK1704154096 Hanoi VNA in English 1422 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA April 17 — Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here today Mr. Isamu

Yamada, general governor of Osaka State of Japan, who is on a working visit to Vietnam.

The Prime Minister expressed his pleasure at the development of the friendship and cooperation between Osaka State and Ho Chi Minh City in particular and between Vietnam and Japan in general, and said that Osaka, with many developed small-and medium-sized enterprises, should share experiences with Vietnam in building this kind of business. He also affirmed that Vietnam is continuing to complete legal systems to attract more foreign investment into Vietnam, and said he hoped that Osaka State in particular and Japan in general will promote their investment in and cooperation with Vietnam.

Governor Isamu Yamada said that the aim of his current Vietnam visit is to inquire into possibilities to enhance cooperation between Osaka State and Ho Chi Minh City. He expressed his satisfaction at the development of the trade and economic ties between Osaka and several Vietnamese localities in the past time, especially after the opening of the direct air-link between Osaka and Ho Chi Minh City. Business people in Osaka will get many opportunities to invest into Vietnam, he believed.

Governor Isamu Yamada also expressed his confidence in Vietnam's open-door foreign policies, and his belief that Vietnam's economy will be developed more strongly in the future.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU), to establish a Vietnam-Osaka economic and commercial centre was signed during the visit.

SRV: Thailand Told Hanoi Against Use of Force in Disputes

*BK1704033896 Bangkok BANGKOK POST
in English 17 Apr 96 p 7*

[Report by Atchara Atchayakachat in Hanoi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vietnam does not want force applied in disputes in the Gulf of Thailand, Foreign Minister M.R. [Mom Ratchawong — royal title] Kasemsamoson Kasemsi was told in Hanoi yesterday.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet agreed that fishery disputes should be settled on the basis of good intentions in relations.

Thai and Vietnamese experts are to meet next week to promote cooperation in establishing order at sea, especially in disputed areas.

Six rounds of expert-level talks have been held on maritime delineation, and M.R. Kasemsamoson, who is on a four-day official visit, said: "Progress has been made."

Mr Kiet asked about Malaysia's draft proposal for infrastructure development in the Mekong region, which involves China, Japan and South Korea, in addition to the seven members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

He was quoted by M.R. Kasemsamoson as saying Vietnam preferred closer cooperation in such development among the riparian countries, China, Burma, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

M.R. Kasemsamoson gave Thailand's reassurances that Vietnam will be included in infrastructure development, which remains a priority to boost regional trade and establish a strong manufacturing base.

Malaysia's proposal has yet to be finalised.

Kuala Lumpur is due to host a ministerial-level meeting in June, with ASEAN and the three East Asian countries ahead of the annual meeting of the grouping's foreign ministers in July.

The minister, who is accompanied by a group of businessmen, also met Vietnam's Minister of Planning and Investment Do Quoc Sam.

M.R. Kasemsamoson spelled out Thailand's policy to promote long-term business in Vietnam and ask for support from Hanoi.

The delegation includes Phairot Piamphongsan, president of Ban Chang Group, whose affiliate, Asian Infrastructure Development, is seeking a joint-venture licence to develop an industrial zone and deep-sea port in the northern port city of Haiphong.

SRV: Draft Party Political Report, Last Installment

*BK1704131296 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Apr 96*

[Twelfth, and last, installment of draft political report to be presented by the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee to the upcoming Eighth National Party Congress; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] 3. Consolidate the party organizationally and seriously implement the principle of democratic centralism.

Specific rules must be worked out to ensure that party members have equal opportunity to discuss and decide on issues relating to the activities of party organizations. It is necessary to see that the minority submits to the majority, that individuals yield to the organization, that lower echelons listen to higher echelons, and that organizations within the party comply with the decisions of the Party Central Committee and the National Party Congress. Decisions that rest with the power of the

collective must be reached by the majority itself and individual members must implement the decisions of the collective.

Party members and cadres should uphold a sense of organization and discipline, put themselves under the management of party chapters on a voluntary basis, enthusiastically participate in all party chapter activities, and comply with party discipline. No party members should be allowed to distance themselves from the management of the organization.

Serious steps must be taken to practice criticism and self-criticism, fight against formalistic or superficial ways of doing things, and combat the unwillingness to rectify shortcomings. It is necessary to prohibit repression and reprisals against critics as well as attempts to take advantage of criticism to launch slanderous attacks and cause internal disunity.

All manifestations of poor sense of organization and discipline, deliberate attempts to oppose party instructions and resolutions, and intentions to breed factions and weaken the bloc of the ideological and organizational singlemindedness of the party must be subjected to severe disciplinary measures.

Continued efforts must be made to revamp the party apparatuses, state mechanisms, and mass societies. Efforts must also be made to shed more light on the functions, duties, and relations among organizations. Steps must be taken to consolidate party committee echelons and improve the quality of the activities of party committees, party groups, and party affairs committees. Measures must be taken to streamline the mechanism.

Unity and singlemindedness within the party among leading agencies constitute a decisive factor of success of the revolution. Cadres and party members safeguard unity and singlemindedness within the party based on the political lines, organizational principles, and comradeship.

Concentrated efforts must be made to cope with incidents that involve serious disunity in sectors and localities. It is necessary to correctly analyze the causes and work out adequate problem-solving methods. It is necessary to pay special attention to the following:

- Appoint the right people to head party organizations and administrative organs at the same level;
- Correctly implement the principle of democratic centralism;
- Work out well-defined operating procedures, particularly relating to cadre work;

— Practice frequent criticism and self-criticism and resolutely combat jealousy, greed for fame and wealth, regionalism, and individualism;

— Foster comradeship and mutual respect; and

— Discover all indications of disunity in a timely manner and make every effort to get rid of them in a thorough way.

We should not associate the existence of different views in discussions and debates with the lack of unity. The development of the revolution has given rise to many complicated and unclear theoretical and practical issues; therefore, there must be discussions and debates within the party. In the interest of truth and justice, cadres and party members should listen to and respect other people's ideas. At times, they should wait for additional opinions before deciding on certain issues. Also, they should not reach a consensus in a formalistic, one-way, and easy fashion just because they are not bold enough to express different views.

4. Paying good attention to the development of a contingent of cadres with adequate qualities and competence.

The duties of the new period pose many requirements in cadre work. The party as a whole should pay the utmost attention and care to the building of the current contingent of cadres, as well as the prospective contingent of cadres, who should be competent in all fields. The party should, in a shortest period of time possible, successfully build up a strategy for cadre work in the new period.

The party provides cadres for all sectors of the whole political system. On one hand, the party holds universal leadership in both cadres' work and the management of the contingent of cadres and, on the other, develops the responsibilities of member organizations in the political system. The party should always maintain the principles of collective leadership and democracy in parallel with the development of individual responsibility.

While always ensuring good standards of performance, the party should always try to rejuvenate the contingent of cadres and organize good coordination between different age groups in order to maintain continuity and development potential within the party. The party should also have policies to encourage unity that will attract all types of cadres as well as other talents within the country both in and outside the party.

Training and retraining for cadres must be comprehensive, covering all aspects of political theories, moral qualities, and professional competence, and be aimed at all leading officials, management officials, businessmen, and specialists, with special attention being given

to core cadres in the political system. Talent and ethics are both important, but ethics should be the basis. All party officials should strive to regularly improve their capacity in all aspects, sharpen their political qualities, and cultivate their loyalty to the revolutionary ideals and their determination to safeguard national independence and socialism. They should also highlight awareness of the organization's disciplines, be models of moral living to others, and have the ability to make their own interests fit in with those of the organization. Whenever their own interests conflict with those of the organization, the collective interests should prevail.

The party should care for the sources of cadres in universities, colleges, and occupational schools, and carry out measures to heighten the standards of training and education in these centers.

Perceptions and methodologies in cadre assessment and deployment must be renovated in the direction of democratic and scientific principles. Each party committee level should have measures to manage and follow up the development process of their cadres. Any assessment of and comments on an official must be based on his concrete actions, achievements, and flaws in each particular period. Comments and conclusions on cadres as well as other personnel decisions must be the responsibility of authorized organizations. Party organizations should avoid simplified, biased, impartial, and formalistic practices in personnel work.

Deployment and appointment of cadres should guarantee satisfactory criteria and competence. Appointments and promotions should be made in time and within the capacity of the appointees concerned. Regulations should be set up to organize elections with clearly defined terms of office. Provisions need to be made to allow officials to resign to seek other positions. The party organizations also need policies on the selection of cadres to attract those with talent.

The party needs proper policies on rewards and incentives for cadres to overcome the brain drain situation in the state sectors. We will also need active and positive measures to protect cadres, not letting them become corrupt, sidelined, and manipulated by others.

5. Heightening the militancy of party organizations.

In order to have effective measures to renovate and rectify different types of party organizations, we should carry out careful analysis of their functions. Each type of party organization should operate in accordance with its functions and duties.

Developing the experiences learned from the implementation of the resolution of the Party Seventh Central Committee's Third Plenum, party organizations should

continue to build their units into pure and steadfast units, improve weak grassroots party organizations, and overcome the situation of lax party work. Whenever party organizations are riddled by internal disunity, or when leading officials have shown indications of negativity, party organizations at a higher level should direct and help the party organizations concerned to rectify their weaknesses. Party organizations at grassroots level in regions with ethnic and religious groups should get help to implement changes for the better in party work.

Consolidation and rectification work in party organizations at grassroots level should help these party organizations to firmly take hold of all the lines and policies of the party and state and to be able to work out plans and measures to fulfill their duties in economic development, eliminate hunger and reduce poverty, improve the livelihood of the laboring people, and fight against corruption and coercive actions against the people. Party organizations should always strive to improve party activities and have clear provisions stipulating procedures for party officials who are on assignments far from home or overseas. Party members should always be managed using strong discipline.

In private enterprises, joint ventures with foreign countries, and localities where there are few party members, we must start by building mass organizations, gathering and educating the masses, recruiting more youth union and youth association members as well as party members before moving toward building party cells and party chapters. We must promptly come up with guiding stipulations governing the activities of various party organizations in this sector.

We must set aside appropriate funds for the training, additional training, and rewarding of grass-roots party cadres. Attention must be given to strengthening the contingent of backbone cadres.

Grass-roots party organizations must mobilize and organize the people to regularly participate in party building, to contribute their views on the preparation of party resolutions, to supervise and criticize party cadres and members, to recommend deserving people for party membership or for election to various party committees and the administration, to help their higher-echelon party organizations satisfactorily inspect, discover, and fight against acts of corruption and smuggling as well as against other negative practices.

We must renovate the mode of assigning duties to party members and must create conditions for all party members to adhere to their specific duties. As for aging and ailing comrades, we must assign them appropriate duties, uphold their responsibility and experience, and con-

cern ourselves with giving them the necessary assistance so as to ensure their livelihood.

We must step up the party development task, trying to ensure standards and qualities. We must train and educate youths so as to create sources of replenishment for the party.

6. Continuing to renovate the party's leadership procedures.

The party must set forth policies and lines on national construction and defense and must firmly grasp its organization and cadres so as to ensure effective enforcement of party lines. The party exercises its rule in accordance with the principles of democratic centralism, collective leadership, and individual responsibility. The party exercises its rule through its party organizations and not through its individual party members. The party exercises its rule through collective decisions and by means of monitoring, offering guiding suggestions, and inspecting work implementation. The party must encourage what is good and correct what is bad in order to help develop the role and efficiency of the state rather than running things on behalf of the state. Despite its rule over the political system, the party and all its members must work within the framework of the Constitution and the law and must take responsibility for what they have done.

Party-youth union elements and cadre affairs sections in various state organs and mass organizations must take responsibility before their party committee echelons for any failure on the part of their parent state organs or mass organizations to understand party policies and lines in carrying out their activities. They must cooperate with relevant department-level party committees and local party committee echelons in carrying out party building at those establishments under the management of their sectors.

Party committees, party-youth union committees, and party cadre affairs committees must work according to the principles of collective leadership and individual responsibility. They must establish for themselves a system of periodic meetings with clear-cut agendas and must not create a mixup between party meetings and government meetings.

7. Regarding party inspection and discipline.

Inspection work plays an extremely important role in the entire party leadership activities. Exercising leadership without carrying out inspection is tantamount to doing nothing at all. Conducting party inspection and maintaining party discipline constitute a duty of the entire party.

The goals of inspection work consist of conducting inspections of the enforcement of party policies, lines, resolutions, and directives over the observance of the principles governing the organization and activities of the party, and over the maintenance of party members's revolutionary qualities and ethics. We must, through inspection efforts, develop strong points, discover new factors, overcome shortcomings, and deal with violations.

Party organizations, party committees, especially the Political Bureau, the Secretariat, and various standing committees must take the initiative in conducting inspection and using subordinate committees to organize inspection work in a satisfactory fashion.

Party inspection work, which involves the drawing of programs, plans, goals and targets, must be closely linked with state and popular inspection work if we are to reach a clear-cut conclusion and come up with correct countermeasures against those breaching the law, especially party members.

We must consolidate and strengthen the inspection mechanism at various echelons. Attention must be paid to providing training and additional training to the contingent of inspectors of legal and economic policies and concepts as well on professional services. We must build a contingent of impartial, clean, and qualified inspection cadres with good political qualities, who must have sufficient capabilities, including the capability to inspect the enforcement of the party policies and lines.

SRV Party Paper Views Draft Political Report

*BK1804080996 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
10 Apr 96 pp 1, 3*

[Editorial: "A Major Political Activity of the Entire People"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Throughout its history, our party has always maintained familial ties with the people and has wholeheartedly struggled for the liberation of the nation and working class. We have acted in line with venerated Uncle Ho's teachings in the process of seizing power and exerting leadership over the administration. Our party has remained unquestionably loyal to Marxism-Leninism and the ideology of Ho Chi Minh. Our party has remained close to the people, listening to their views, and guiding them through surmounting difficulties and hardships. Our party continues to struggle untiringly in the interests and for the future of the nation. Close connection with the people has provided our party with an invincible strength and, as Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi says: "The party works for the people and the people have confidence in the party."

That close connection is part of the fine tradition of our party.

Each party congress is closely linked to a corresponding stage of development of the nation and party; therefore, a party congress is an important event in the history of our nation and party. The upcoming Eighth National Party Congress will recapitulate the achievements of renovation and set forth the orientations, objectives, and tasks for the industrialization and modernization program. It is designed to make the people rich and the country powerful, bring about justice and civilization in a society based on socialist orientations, firmly safeguard national independence and freedom, and ensure happiness for the people. The congress will play a very important role in national development and will discuss not only party affairs, but also issues relating to our people and nation. It will be a festival for our entire party, army, and people.

The Party Central Committee Secretariat has decided to publicize the draft political report that will be presented by the Seventh Party Central Committee to the Eighth Party Congress for public consideration. Taking the suggestions made by all party members, the arrangements for our people to air their views on congress documents have once again testified to the fact that our party always tries to guarantee that its line is linked to real life situations and truly reflects the people's will and aspirations. As its orientations are based not only on scientifically solid principles, but also on all aspects of life of the people from different parts of the country, they can draw upon the wisdom of all members of society to formulate national

development orientations and encourage everyone to actively participate in party-building work. They should consider the Communist Party of Vietnam as their own party. The drive to solicit public views on documents to be presented to the Eighth Party Congress is a major political event and a "Dien Hong Conference" in the new stage.

Local party committee echelons, mass organizations, and grass-roots establishments are responsible for thoroughly collecting views on congress documents so that the Party Central Committee can select adequate views and include them in the documents to be presented to the Party Congress. It is important to avoid formality and concentrate on practicality and efficiency. It is necessary to pay attention to the collection of views of veteran revolutionaries of many generations, manual and office workers, compatriots living in deep or remote areas, people who cannot express their opinions in lengthy articles or speeches due to their tight work schedules or limited cultural background but who have practical and correct views. This will enable compilation committees to gather opinions of people of all walks of life, including overseas Vietnamese who are willing to make their views heard by the party and nation.

As this is not the first time we have solicited public views on party documents, we need to learn from past experiences in order to do a better job and ensure that party documents reflect not only "the will of the party" but also "the will of the people" and not only "the aspirations of the people" but also "the aspirations of the party."

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